









**SPEECHES**

**delivered by**

**HIS EXCELLENCY**

**SIR JOHN ARTHUR HERBERT, G.C.I.E.**

**Governor of Bengal**

**during**

**1942-43**





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## **Speeches delivered by His Excellency Sir John Arthur Herbert during 1942-43.**

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### **His Excellency's Speech at the Bengal Legislative Assembly on the 2nd April 1942.**

**MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER AND HON'BLE MEMBERS OF  
THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY—**

I have sought the opportunity of addressing you at the end of the session because there are certain matters which I should like you to consider before you return to your constituencies. It would have been my wish to address a joint session of both Chambers of the Legislature, and I regret that that has not been possible, since the Council has been prorogued, and I feel that it might have caused inconvenience to summon its members at short notice. I have, therefore, decided to address the the Legislative Assembly, and I hope you will agree with me that the moment is opportune, and that what I say to you is of great importance to the people of this Province and to you, their representatives.

You are about to return to your constituencies at a time when Bengal, after centuries of peace, stands in grave peril. It is possible that before this Assembly meets again there may be momentous events in the theatre of war. Let us look at the facts squarely. Recent events in Malaya and Burma have brought nearer the threat to India,

and more particularly to her Eastern Provinces. It is not unnatural that this campaign has overshadowed in the popular mind the events that have taken place in other theatres of war, and has given rise to apprehensions that Eastern India may be attacked from the air, or invaded. Yet the defences of Eastern India are not limited by her territorial boundaries, nor are they independent of the tactical situation elsewhere. They are related to the campaigns in Europe and Africa; to the battles of the Atlantic and the Pacific, and in each theatre of operations the tactical situation reacts upon the situation elsewhere. No country at war can act separately from its allies, in the same way that no battalion or brigade can act independently of the co-ordinated plan of operations. Our task, therefore, is to fit in with the general scheme of strategy, and to see how we can best play our part in meeting this threat to the Province.

Let me take first the possibility that enemy action will take the form of an air attack. The battle of Britain was won partly by the Royal Air Force, but no less by the spirit of the civil population. No town was better defended than London, but the battle of London was won because the civil population remained at work, undaunted by repeated air raids, thus enabling the civic life of the city to continue unimpaired. The same spirit of endurance and fortitude has been shown by the people of Chungking, whose city has been subjected to repeated attacks from the air during the past four and half years. Calcutta, and perhaps other

cities of this Province, may be put to the same test, and it depends to a large extent upon the citizens whether the battle is won or lost. In the defence of any city three things are essential—guns, aeroplanes and civilian morale, and the greatest of these is morale. To those of you who reside in this city, I say with full conviction that your influence can play a great part in sustaining morale, and it is my earnest hope that you will use your endeavours to that end.

As Legislators you know what preparations have been made for the civil defence of Calcutta and Bengal and owing to changes in party alignment it is a fact that the majority of parties have been or are responsible for these preparations. It will be appreciated that the whole scheme of civil defence depends ultimately upon the co-operation of the general public. But in order to obtain co-ordination and to assist and guide the public detailed preparations and properly organised and disciplined services are necessary. We have our Wardens Service, our Casualty and First Aid Services, our Rescue Service, our Fire-fighting Services, our Depots and our Control Rooms. The men in these Services are standing to their posts, and will, I believe, play their part with courage and resolution if they are called upon. There is still room for more recruits, but they must be men who are prepared to come forward voluntarily to help in the defence of their homes and their neighbours' homes, and to stick to their posts, whatever happens. I would rather go into battle with a

score of trustworthy men than with a hundred waverers, and I have no doubt that those who are now in the services, and have given up their leisure to prepare themselves, hold the same view. The civil defence services are prepared to carry out their task, and ask only for the co-operation of their fellow citizens.

For the protection of the civil population a large number of slit trenches, and public shelters are available. Experience in Britain, no less than in Burma and elsewhere, has shown that if people will learn the vital lesson of taking cover when the alarm is sounded, and remaining under cover until the all-clear sounds, they are immune from the worst danger. I repeat that the danger is greatly minimised if every man and woman decides now where to go during an air-raid, and stays there until the raid is over. On the other hand, the danger to people, who out of ignorance or curiosity remain in the open, is very real.

Before I turn to the other possible form of enemy attack, I should like to say something regarding the apprehensions which have been frequently expressed lest an outbreak of looting should occur in this city. If there are any doubts on this score, let me assure you that apart from the large military force available to maintain internal order, the police force in Calcutta has been considerably strengthened, and it is the intention of my Government to deal most drastically with any attempts at arson or looting which might follow an air-raid and Special Courts are also being

set up which will have enhanced powers, and will employ a summary procedure in dealing with offenders.

Arrangements have been made by Government for the supply and distribution of food, and a large number of employers realising the fears arising from the uncertainty of supplies, have already set up shops for the sale of food and essentials to their employees at normal prices. I would urge that this example be followed by all so that there may be no uncertainty as to supply. My Government further intend to enforce a rigid control over prices, and the movement of food stocks and other essentials.

Throughout the Province the Police Force has been strengthened and the Civic Guard organisation is being overhauled and put on a more efficient footing. In addition further demands will be made for voluntary service in maintaining internal security and in giving warning of the approach of the enemy; and I expect that shortly volunteers will be asked for to join an expanded Observer Corps and other Units designed to achieve the above objects.

These precautions are essential to our internal security in times of emergency, and I feel sure you will agree with me that they will not only strengthen public morale, but are of great potential value in preventing any form of fifth column activity. Let me make it perfectly clear that it is my intention and that of my Government to deal drastically with any such form of activity.



The other danger which threatens this Province is invasion by land or sea-borne troops. Before I refer to the action which will, I hope, be taken by the civil population in such an emergency, I should like to say something regarding the policy of denying to the enemy certain essentials which, if they fell into his hands, might facilitate his advance. There has been a great deal of misunderstanding on this subject, and the idea has developed that this policy of denial is the equivalent of the "scorched earth policy" adopted in Russia. I can assure you that there is no intention to enforce a scorched earth policy in the districts of Bengal: indeed, the very expression "scorched earth" should be entirely abandoned, since it is misleading and gives rise to groundless apprehensions. There is no intention on the part of Government or the Army to burn villages, or to remove stocks of grain from villagers' houses. But, as you know, there are certain districts in which the production of paddy is in excess of the normal requirements of those districts. Should these surplus stocks of grain fall into the hands of the enemy, there might result distress and even famine in those districts which do not produce sufficient for their own needs. It has, therefore, been decided to take measures to remove the surplus stocks from the districts concerned, but it is not intended to remove any paddy, or other food grains, which are needed for the normal requirements of the civil population.

The other form of denial that is intended in the districts is to prevent any means of transport from

falling into the enemy's hands. I feel sure you will agree with me that it would be fatal to leave motor cars, stocks of petrol, bicycles, boats, or other means of transport to facilitate the enemy's progress. The lessons of Malaya and Burma have taught us that. It is, therefore, our policy to deny to the enemy all means of movement or transport. If it should ever happen that, in the view of the Military Authorities, the invasion of any district of Bengal was imminent, all forms of transport, whether by land or water would have to be removed. Let me explain that if it became necessary for Government to deprive individuals of any means of transport or conveyance, it is the intention to pay compensation to them. I need hardly observe that compensation would *not* be forthcoming in the event of such transport falling into the hands of the enemy. This denial of the means of communication would involve the co-operation of the civil population, who may be asked, should the emergency arise, to hand in bicycles at thana or district headquarters, and to remove country-boats from the danger zone to an area of safety. I realise that this must inevitably cause inconvenience and possibly dislocation in the economic life of the district concerned; I realise that country-boats are to the people of East Bengal the principal means of movement, and the only means of movement during the rains; but I feel sure you will appreciate that if the people in an invaded area can deny all means of transport to the enemy, they may be instrumental in saving the

rest of the Province. I am able to tell you that the highest Military Authority is of opinion that the effective co-operation of the civil population in removing, utterly and completely, all forms of transport would be of the greatest strategic value—indeed, of greater value than the raising in this Province of several divisions of troops. That is a matter in which you, as representatives of the people, of the people, can be of the greatest assistance in securing their co-operation and explaining to them that any temporary inconvenience they may be called upon to suffer by the action which I have described, may mean the salvation of their country.

Let us recognise that while it does not lie in the Province to direct or control military operations, it is the duty both of Government and the people to facilitate those operations by conforming to the fullest extent and co-operating in every way. It is for this reason, and because this Legislature represents predominantly the rural areas of Bengal, that in speaking to you to-day I have laid so much stress upon the duties of the rural people. The great industrial areas, of which we are so proud, and to which this Province owes so much of its prosperity, are a separate problem in which the Central Government is vitally concerned; and those whose interests are affected have full means of access to the Central Government itself. It is not, therefore, for me to define in detail the policy of the Central Government in this respect, and this is not the forum in which a pronouncement on that

matter should be made. But I may say this much, that in industrial and urban areas, while our plans must provide in the last resort for the most effective embarrassment of the enemy; there is no intention of indulging in wanton destruction of industrial wealth or civil necessities.

I have earlier referred briefly to the attitude of my Government towards any manifestation of fifth column activity. No country at war can afford to take any risks. The history of this war shows, only too clearly, the damage that has been done by men of the quisling type in different countries. The fall of Norway, of Denmark, of Holland and many other countries was due to the Trojan horse tactics of the fifth column organised by men who sold their country to the enemy. The aim of such traitors is to undermine authority so that people mistrust orders designed for their own safety. Instructions given for the protection of life and property are then disregarded through misunderstanding, and the result is confusion and panic, mutual distrust and recrimination, and finally chaos.

I and my Government intend to deal firmly with all such activities, at whatever cost to popularity in the knowledge that by so doing we shall not only earn the respect and the thanks of this Province, of India and the United Nations, but may be saving our Province from a danger that might imperil her whole future.

A lesser evil than the fifth columnist—but still an evil—is the individual who spreads mischievous rumours. He may have no deliberate intention

of aiding the enemy, but he may do so, nonetheless. Equally guilty is the individual who gives credence to such rumours, instead of endeavouring to pin down their origin, countering, them, and taking steps to report the rumour-monger. It is by believing and passing on unconfirmed stories that rumours may develop which are capable of affecting morale and even of leading to panic. No less important is it to avoid careless references to the movement of troops or materials of war which may give away information of the greatest value to the enemy. I earnestly appeal to the public to be careful in their speech and writing, to discredit wild stories or rumours, to do their utmost to counteract them, and to refrain from repeating anything that seems to be of doubtful authenticity.

I do not imply by this that there is any intention of limiting freedom of speech or the liberty of the Press. I realise the extent of the co-operation we have received from the Press, and I personally appreciate the spirit in which its representatives have met me at conferences. I know that I can rely upon their support in the suppression of rumours, in the guidance of public opinion to that end, and in any measures taken to ensure the successful prosecution of the war.

Let me now reiterate what are our duties if we are faced with the actualities of air attack or invasion. Let us make it our common object to defend this Province against Japanese aggression. Let us see to it that if the enemy crosses our frontiers, or lands upon our shores, he will have the least

possible chance of success through the denial of any means of transport. Let us bear with courage and resolution the ordeal of air raids should they occur. Let us keep our civic life unimpaired, our civil morale high, and unaffected by rumour, our factories working, our war production moving at full speed. Let us devote all our efforts to helping our Army and Air Force. Let us undergo cheerfully any inconveniences which their requirements may involve. Finally, let us hold fast to the knowledge that in the fulness of time our enemies will be defeated. They are opposed not only by the growing strength of the United Nations, but by the determination of people throughout the civilised world to put an end forever to the domination of dictatorship. Whatever power the dictators may now wield, I am convinced that the great mass of people throughout the world desire above all things freedom to live their own lives in their own way. It is that great force of humanity which will eventually overthrow the rule of the dictator, and bring the world to "happier days and broader lands". Surely it is for Bengal to demonstrate in what manner she can help the world movement. The task before us is one calling for the mobilisation of all resources in the Province in the face of imminent danger. The need for a united War Front is urgent.

Not long ago I invited the leaders of all parties and groups in the Legislature to a conference, and asked them certain questions with the object of ascertaining their views on the possibility of

forming such a War Front through a Government which would be representative of all parties. Some of the leaders at that time were of the opinion that no Government representative of all parties would be possible in Bengal until the All-India problem had been solved or some agreement had been reached between the major political parties. I believe I am voicing the opinion of every hon'ble member in this House when I say that it is our wish and hope that such a settlement will be reached. But the point which I put to you now is that if it is still impossible at this critical moment to sink party differences and to form a Government representing all parties; if the battle of party politics must continue on the floor of this Assembly, nevertheless there is no reason why every hon'ble member in this Assembly, whatever his political views, should not rally the people in support of the war effort, and help to maintain public morale in face of the danger that threatens their country.

I should welcome an opportunity of meeting party leaders to-morrow to discuss with them the means by which their supporters can best bring home to the people of Bengal what can be done to put every possible obstacle in the path of the enemy. I trust that on this vital issue I shall have the support of all, irrespective of party or sectional interests.

Let me remind you of the words of His Excellency the Viceroy in his recent message. He said—“The land we live in is threatened with danger. This is a call to action for every one of us. Close

the ranks, and stand shoulder to shoulder against an aggressor, whose conduct, in the peaceful countries which he has outraged, brands him as barbarous and pitiless". And again:—"We are members of a worthy company, China, Russia, America, Britain and a score of others; let each one of us in India be worthy of our own country and of our comrades." When you consider those words, I would ask you also to consider whether it would not be possible for you, on returning to your constituencies, to implement the intention of that message,—to do everything possible to help and maintain public morale; to strengthen the people's spirit of resistance to the enemy; to eradicate elements that tend to undermine the spirit of resistance and public confidence; to counteract subversive activities of all kinds likely to produce a defeatist mentality, and to consolidate the will of the people to offer united resistance to the enemy in every shape and form until this menace to the safety of our Province is overthrown.



**His Excellency's Speech broadcast from the All-India Radio Station, Calcutta, on the 10th May 1942.**

Early in March just after Rangoon had fallen, His Excellency the Viceroy sent out a message. He reminded us that the war had arrived at India's gates and had suddenly become the concern of each one of us, not as spectators but as combatants in our several fields. He invited us to close our ranks and stand steady behind the fighting men in a National effort against the aggressor. He more recently appealed for a spirit of attack—an attack on our work : remembering those who depend upon our production, an attack on rumour-mongers, who deliberately or carelessly spread alarm in a defeatist spirit. It is in terms of attack that I talk to you to-night.

But let me first refer to a matter of immediate concern. You will have read or heard of the air raids on Chittagong. Let us extend our sympathies to all those who have suffered and to the relatives of those killed. Let us also commend those who during the raids showed calmness and resolution. You should know that when the raiders came the population of Chittagong behaved with great calmness and showed the same sort of bravery as has already been shown by the civilian populations of London and Moscow and Chungking.

Those who stay and show calmness during air raids contribute something of real importance to India's war effort. When the Viceroy broadcast his

appeal for a National War Front and when he added to that broadcast the necessity for "attack", he had this in mind as an essential part of the plan.

Not to run away, not to stop work for any longer than is absolutely necessary, not to set the bad example of panic are in themselves forms of attack which everyone can develop for himself. Or, if it comes to that, for herself, too.

Now the rumour-mongers will attempt to get busy. They will seek to exaggerate the damage and casualties resulting from these raids. They will try to discover imaginary faults in the preparations. Let the National War Front undertake to attack these men, who by their defeatist talk spread alarm.

There is nothing that the enemy would like better than to spread panic among us, for panic weakens effort, and a weakened effort means less war production and consequently less strength with which to repulse and then to attack and destroy those who want to destroy all of us.

This is a war in which we are all engaged : it isn't just a war for soldiers ; and the man in the factory or the cultivator of the soil has as much to contribute to the common good and the common end as any one with a rifle in his hand and a soldier's pack upon his shoulders.

To "stay put" in an air raid, to plough the earth, even though you may be in some slight danger, to turn the lathe, is to make a contribution to security and peace worth every bit as much as driving a tank or manning a gun. Not "to stay put" is to desert.

Already throughout Bengal different sections of different communities have held meetings at which those present pledged themselves to stand shoulder to shoulder to attack the aggressor, closing the ranks against the common foe. Here in Bengal we are being put to the test.

Preparations have been made for the safety of our citizens. Adequate protection in trenches or in prepared shelters stand ready. The Defence Services Personnel are recruited, trained and equipped. They have undertaken to stand firm and to look after their fellow-citizens. Adequate preparations have been made to ensure the maintenance of supplies. Food stocks have been laid in and arrangements made for retailing essentials should necessity arise.

We are all agreed that the sooner this war is over the better it is for all of us. We can finish it quickly if the spirit of attack is in us, but otherwise it will be a long war, because it will not end until the Japanese have been as soundly beaten as the Germans are going to be beaten. The spirit of "attack" is just another way of talking about a determination to win; but a determination to win is not a determination so long as it remains a string of words.

I have said that Bengal is being put to the test. That has only just begun. Let us, therefore, always keep before us the pledge suggested for the National War Front, and which should be taken by every man and woman in Bengal.

•“Because I am proud to be a citizen of India, I solemnly pledge myself to stamp out defeatism and suppress alarmist rumours, to face and defy every peril threatening India’s honour and security, and to work day by day in the sure and certain hope of victory.”

I expect all in Bengal to act up to the spirit of these words.

**His Excellency's Address made on the occasion of the presentation of the Badge of a Member, of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire to Khan Bahadur Dinshaw Eduljee Avari, M.B.E., on the 28th May 1942.**

You have been Vice-Chairman of the Darjeeling Municipality since 1937 and an Honorary Magistrate, exercising First Class powers, since 1928. Your close association with several charitable institutions of the town and your hard work for the improvement of its civic administration earned for you the title of Khan Bahadur in 1935. Since the outbreak of war, you have rendered great help in raising contributions for War Funds, and as the Proprietor of Cinema houses, you have given many free shows in aid of these funds. Your public service has now been further recognised and in the name of the King-Emperor and by His Majesty's Command, I hand you the Badge of a Member of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire.

## **His Excellency's Message to the Meeting held on the 14th June 1942 in connection with the United Nations Flag Day.**

At the suggestion of the President of the United States of America, the traditional American Flag Day, which is observed on the 14th June each year, is being celebrated this year as the Flag Day of the United Nations. India has been glad to adopt this suggestion, and you are meeting this evening to give added weight to the celebration. I ask you to take this opportunity of expressing your adherence to the cause of the United Nations, and of showing your determination to assist in achieving that Victory which alone can bring peace and prosperity to a war-wracked world. Unless the United Nations triumph in this great struggle, all the peoples of the world will be reduced to slavery, beggary and despair, and the people of India will not escape that fate.

I ask you also to remember particularly on this day all those who have suffered from the pride and malignity of the Axis Powers. Incredible devastations and monstrous cruelties have been perpetrated by the Nazis in Russia, in Poland, in Norway, in Czecho-Slovakia, in Yugo-Slavia, in Greece, in the Low Countries and in the unhappy land of France. Fascist Italy has followed their lead where she could, and in China and the fair lands of the Far East Japan has likewise assumed the role of a destroyer. Civilization and all that it means to

mankind must and *shall* be saved from these bandits and barbarians. The peoples and lands which have been over-run and assailed must and *shall* be rescued from their greedy clutches. Victory is certain, but it can be accelerated. We, of the United Nations, must help each other. We must stand together and united, for in this way we shall conquer together the Powers of Evil.

All in Bengal have a great responsibility, and now that the War is at the gates of India it behoves us all to face facts. Let those who look forward to an Independent India realise that until the Axis Powers are soundly beaten, the causes of freedom and democracy will ever be in jeopardy. Party bickerings, sectional hatreds and recriminations are now of no avail. They are a danger to this country, for they weaken the will to repel the foe. Let each one of us in the Province accept responsibility. Let us all stand together, subordinating those temporary differences of opinion which weaken our efforts, and let us make available the whole strength of Bengal in a united effort to resist the enemy.

I, therefore, appeal to all of you, and through you to all the people of this Province, to play an active part in securing the triumph of Right over Wrong, of Justice over Iniquity, of Light over Darkness.

## **His Excellency's Speech broadcast from the Dacca Station of the All-India Radio on the 27th June 1942.**

Since I last spoke from Dacca much has happened throughout the world and more particularly beyond our eastern frontiers. Japan attacked unprovoked and choosing her own time for the commencement of hostilities, was able to exploit the advantages gained through her treachery. The tide of war came very close to eastern India and though it has receded the respite that we now enjoy may prove to be temporary and we should be indeed unwise to regard the situation with complacency or to relax for a moment our watchfulness or our preparations. Rather should we use the opportunity to strengthen the people's resistance in the same way that our power of armed resistance is steadily developing.

Now is the time for the people of Bengal to rally together to form a united front against the aggressor and thus to demonstrate to the world that we can in time of stress sink past misunderstandings and join all our forces in the defence of this country. At such a time we should be able to face the world and say that differences, which can be settled after the war is won, have been laid aside in the cause of final victory and that all those who have influence over the people have made up their minds to subordinate party interests and personal ambitions to the safety of the country they love.



You, the people of East Bengal, have a great responsibility. You and I must work together for the security of this province against internal dissension. I believe that the citizens of this, the second city of Bengal, have learnt the bitter lesson of senseless and fratricidal discord. It was rather more than a year ago that communal passions showed themselves in their most violent form. Innocent persons were stabbed to death in the public streets. Men were killed for the sole reason that they professed a particular religious creed.

Now speaking from Dacca I ask you, who are listening to me to-night, to recall those unhappy events and realize that they have left nothing behind but misery and bitterness. Is it too much to ask for toleration or for some appreciation of the fate which may overtake this province if we cannot present a united front to the enemy? A house divided against itself will not stand with the enemy so near. Let there be no more communal discord; let Hindus and Moslems of the same city no longer seek to shed each other's blood. Instead let every citizen resolve to do his or her utmost to maintain amity and mutual confidence. I am assured that I shall receive the fullest support in any measures which it may be necessary to take in order to prevent the recurrence of the unhappy events of last year.

It is not my intention, however, to dwell upon that aspect of the situation to-night. I have called for the co-operation of every man and woman in this city in the maintenance of harmony and

confidence between the communities and I am now going to ask for something more. At a time like this, when the province is menaced by Japanese aggression, it is not enough that the two major communities should declare a truce; it is not sufficient to exercise the negative virtue of refraining from actions that might give rise to communal discord. I am asking also for something positive, something constructive. There must be real co-operation between all, real unity of purpose and real determination to resist aggression to the uttermost. I believe that this positive and constructive element is to be found in the development of the National War Front and I ask not only for your passive support to, but for your active co-operation in its work.

His Excellency the Viceroy, inaugurating the National War Front, explained in his message to the people of India that it was not possible for all to serve their country in the front line of battle. Our great allies Russia and China, when the aggressor struck, were like India inadequately armed peasant countries whose greatest strength lay in the determination and resolve of their people never to yield to aggression and never to waver in the face of setbacks. The great majority of their peoples served most faithfully and steadfastly by maintaining their courage and their resolve to win by rallying to the call to join civil defence services by producing war materials and food in greater quantities and when the enemy threatened to overrun their countries, by putting every difficulty in

his path so that his onrush was halted and gradually thrown back. The troops, who defend us, require supplies of food, munitions and arms. Those who are engaged in their production are an essential part of the war machine, although their service lacks the glamour and the glory of the front line.

During the past months in spite of the most trying conditions Bengal has actually increased the rate of production. That is an achievement of which we may be justly proud and I should like to take this opportunity of paying a tribute to all concerned. They have set an example and have shown what can be done by perseverance, co-operation and goodwill. I ask you, who hear me to-night, to search your hearts and ask yourselves : are you doing all you can to help ? What part are you playing in this total war ? Are you using your talents to the fullest in the National War Front ?

Information centres will be set up throughout the province to advise all those who want to take a more active part in safeguarding their motherland by providing details about the different services they can join and the various means of contributing their share to the general war effort. But there is one way in which you can all help and that is to realize that if the Axis Powers were to be victorious India would suffer the same ruthless repression that has been the fate of countries subjugated by them. The enemy will try to instil fear into the hearts of the peoples—fear that they are unprotected—and distrust in those who are helping to defend them. Let us, therefore, attack and attack again all who

seek to undermine our solidarity, root out the defeatist, put courage into the faint-hearted, expose the rumour monger and pin the rumour to its source, drive out the sower of discord and shame the indolent into pulling their full weight. Nothing worth having is easily obtained, no victory is easily gained.

We cannot afford to fail or falter, weaken or tire, nor let the sudden shock of battle nor the long drawn trials of vigilance or exertion wear us down. Our strongest weapon is the spirit and the fire within the people. The enemy must find himself fighting not an army alone but an entire population which has banded itself into one indomitable unit of men and women, who will hold the front line of India's forward progress, and will not rest until victory is won. Let the national spirit rise to this emergency; let us think nothing done while anything remains undone, and thus make the National War Front in Bengal a living reality.

**His Excellency's Addresses to persons invested at the Informal Investiture held on the 8th July 1942.**

**MR. MOHAMMAD SHOAIB, M.B.E.**

As Controller, Army Factory Accounts, since May 1937, you have done outstandingly good work in a most responsible position. You have tackled with conspicuous ability and courage the numerous financial and accounting problems arising from the expansion of the Army Factories under the "Chatfield Programme", and from the still further expansion in Munitions output which has taken place since the beginning of the present war. You have shown yourself helpful, resourceful and capable, and your work has proved to be a direct and valuable contribution to India's war effort.

In the name of the King-Emperor and by His Majesty's Command, I hand you the Badge of a Member of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire.

**MR. CHARLES WILLIAM CLARKE, M.B.E.**

For more than 25 years you have served loyally and devotedly in the Indian Ordnance Services and you have risen to your present rank of Assistant Inspector of Small Arms, Ishapore, through sheer hard work, coupled with ability and intelligence in the application of the experience which you have gained. Your services as a small arms expert have been and continue to be of the greatest value to

the service, and since the outbreak of the present war you have undertaken with marked ability and industry the great increase of work which has fallen to your share. The manner in which you have discharged your duties has constituted a definite contribution to the war effort.

In the name of the King-Emperor and by His Majesty's Command, I hand you the Badge of a Member of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire.

AMY HELEN, LADY REID.

During the many years of Sir Robert Reid's eminent service in India you have interested yourself in those varied activities which are directed towards the improvement of social conditions; and throughout the period of your residence in Assam, you gave an inspiring lead to those who were striving for the welfare of the people. Your extensive tours brought great encouragement to many, and you inspected Hospitals and Welfare Centres not only on the main routes, but also in places never before visited by the wife of a Governor. Your concern for the health of the inhabitants of Assam was illustrated by your organisation of the Shillong Health Exhibition in April 1938; and in appreciation of the fact that useful activity is essential to the well-being of the people, you inaugurated in the same month the Assam Industries Association, which has done much for the cottage industries of the Province. You never missed an opportunity of visiting institutions

devoted to female education, and the Assam Women's Education League, which you formed in May 1940, is a testimony to your interest in women's uplift. In August 1941, you started the Assam Branch of the Women's Voluntary Service, the members of which have done most valuable work along the refugee route. Everything which tended to alleviate suffering was sure of your active support, and your energies were particularly directed towards combating the scourge of tuberculosis. You were the inspiration behind the Tuberculosis Association of Assam, and in January 1942, you laid at Shillong the foundation stone of the first chest clinic in the Province.

In the name of the King-Emperor and by His Majesty's Command, I present you with the Kaisar-i-Hind Medal in Gold for public service in India.

MRS. LYDIA TORRANCE ALLEN, M.D.

You joined the Women's Medical Service in 1928, and have been Lady Superintendent of the Lady Dufferin Victoria Hospital for the past 10 years. You have shown outstanding ability as a hospital administrator, and have organised instructional classes in midwifery and post-graduate work with marked success. Your experience has been of great assistance in the rebuilding of the hospital and in preparing plans for the construction of a new Nurses' Home. The Dufferin Hospital owes the high reputation which it has earned in recent years largely to the work which you have done

there, and your inspiration has been of great benefit to the Lady Dufferin Fund also. Under your professional name of Dr. Torrance you are widely known for the high quality of your work, and your activities in various spheres have benefited the community and have brought honour to Medicine.

In the name of the King-Emperor and by His Majesty's Command, I present you with the Kaisar-i-Hind Medal in Gold for public service in India.

MRS. ALICE HELEN DUNCAN.

You have been associated with the St. John Ambulance Brigade since 1928, when you entered it as a Nursing Sister. You became Honorary Secretary in 1937, First Officer in 1938, Lady Divisional Superintendent in 1940, and finally Lady District Superintendent and Assistant Controller of the Voluntary Ambulance Service. Your work in connection with the Nursing Division has been most praiseworthy, and your experience of the Brigade has proved of the greatest value in connection with the organisation of A. R. P. Services generally and of the Auxiliary Nursing Service in particular. Your unflagging energy and zeal has won for you the admiration of all with whom you have worked.

On behalf of His Excellency the Viceroy, I present you with the Kaisar-i-Hind Medal in Silver for public service in India.

MISS FLOSSIE FIELD.

You have a long record of quiet and unobtrusive work dating from 1916. In that year you



were a V. A. D. in the British Military Hospital, Calcutta, and at the same time you started to collect on behalf of St. Dunstan's. You are an accredited representative of that institution, and last year Sir Clutha Mackenzie spoke very warmly of the services which you have rendered to it. You have also been connected with European Employment Relief, the work of the Indian Red Cross, the collection of books for the troops and of clothes, toys and many other articles for various charitable organisations, hospitals and institutions. The Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, the Blind School, the Young Women's Christian Association and other bodies have reason to be grateful to you for the indefatigably good work which you have done to further the objects which they have in view. For many years you have devoted your whole time to activities of this kind, and you have thereby conferred many benefits upon many persons.

On behalf of His Excellency the Viceroy, I present you with the Kaisar-i-Hind Medal in Bronze for public service in India.

**MR. JOHN BORTHWICK RANKINE, B.E.M.**

You have been in charge of the Gauge Section of the Small Arms Inspectorate at Ishapore for the past six years, and have been very closely associated with the development of experimental designs of new equipment and with improvements to existing stores. Your perception of essential requirements and your ability to put them into practical form

have proved of the utmost value, and you have a well-deserved share of the credit for the success which has been achieved in several important developments. All this experimental work has been done outside the sphere of your normal duties as Gauge Examiner, and it has a direct relation to the progress of the war effort.

In recognition of your good services, His Majesty the King-Emperor has been pleased to award you the Medal of the Civil Division of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire.

**His Excellency's Address made on the occasion of the presentation of Kaisar-i-Hind Medal in Silver to Mrs. Julie Sen on the 16th July 1942.**

You have been prominently associated with the Girl Guide Movement in Bengal for many years and were responsible for starting and raising the money for the Indian Division in Calcutta, of which you were Commissioner until its merger with the Calcutta Division in 1929. You became Provincial Commissioner in 1938; and in addition to your work for the Girl Guides, you have been associated with many charitable institutions and other activities. As a Magistrate of the Juvenile Court, a member of the Committee of the Fresh Air Fund, a member and Chairman of the Committee of the National Indian Association and a member of the Executive Committee of the Ladies General War Committee, your public work has been of a many-sided and most meritorious character, and you have not spared yourself in the labours which you have performed in the interests of others.

On behalf of His Excellency the Viceroy, I present you with the Kaisar-i-Hind Medal in Silver for public service in India

## **His Excellency's Speech at the Police Parade held at Dacca on the 27th July 1942.**

Twice within a year Dacca has been the scene of communal disturbances that have besmirched the fair name of the second capital of Bengal. Such disturbances have also occurred in other areas in the district.

That they are now quelled and have not spread is largely thanks to the forces brought to support law and order. Such occurrences impose a severe strain on those responsible for maintaining the peace. At such times when passions are roused and sectarian interests are sharply defined, public sentiment is excited and hence often biassed. On these occasions a heavy responsibility lies upon all Services, and particularly upon the Police Force, to take a dispassionate view and deal fairly but sternly with those who seek to break the law. I fully realise the difficulties under which members of the Police Force sometimes suffer on such occasions. They are employed for long periods with few reliefs, and considerable physical as well as financial hardships are imposed upon those concerned. I trust that the new arrangements have relieved you of some of this strain, and that further reorganisation will still further ameliorate these hardships.

Members of the force are also on occasions misunderstood when they have to deal with a particular situation. Arm-chair critics away from the scene of conflict, and able to consider its

various aspects quietly and at leisure, fail to appreciate the strain placed upon the man on the spot. He, under conditions of turmoil, has to take an immediate decision and execute it without delay. He has little time to think at leisure, but must make up his mind at once, in spite of all the happenings about him which make it so hard to concentrate his thoughts. While making up his mind on the major issue, he may also have innumerable minor questions to consider and decide.

I know something of the difficulties of the "man on the spot", and I congratulate all ranks of the Dacca Police, as well as of those forces brought in to assist them, upon the manner in which they carried out their duties during these disturbances.

You and they have done well, and I take this opportunity to express my thanks and appreciation as well as that of the vast majority in Bengal who want internal peace and good order.

**His Excellency's Addresses to the Recipients of  
King's Police Medals and Indian Police Medals  
for Gallantry at the Police Parade held at  
Dacca on the 27th July 1942.**

MR. GEORGE EMLYN THOMAS HULSE EVANS, M.C.

After winning the Military Cross during the last war, you joined the Indian Police in 1921, and were confirmed as a Superintendent of Police in 1931. During the troubled times of 1932 to 1934 you did admirable work in Midnapore District, from where you were transferred to the Calcutta Police. As Deputy Commissioner successively of the Port Police, North District and Detective Department, your work was characterised by marked ability, and subsequently in Chittagong your energy and devotion to duty did much to maintain order in that disturbed district. As Assistant Inspector-General since April, 1940, you have performed your heavy duties with particular thoroughness and have proved of the greatest assistance to the Inspector-General in the preparation of schemes relating to Air Raid Precautions and other connected matters.

His Majesty has been pleased to recognise your services by the grant of the King's Police and Fire Services Medal with which I have now much pleasure in decorating you.

BABU BANKIM BIHARI BANARJI.

You were appointed to the Bengal Police after service in the great war with the 49th Bengal

Regiment, in which you rose to the rank of Jamaradar. You had a distinguished career at the Police Training College, where you won the gold medal for the best cadet of the year. You stood first in the Detective Training School Examination, and after service in the regular branch of the Force, you were selected for the District Intelligence Branch, Mymensingh. There your ability and knowledge of political parties have proved of the greatest value. You were awarded the Indian Police Medal in 1936, and since that time you have shown marked ability and great devotion to duty..

His Majesty has been pleased to recognise your services by the grant of the King's Police and Fire Services Medal with which I have now much pleasure in decorating you.

**BABU UMESH CHANDRA DE.**

In August, 1941, while serving as a Sub-Inspector, Chittagong District Intelligence Branch, you received information of the whereabouts of a notorious terrorist absconder. Taking a police party you surrounded the hut in which the absconder was believed to be hiding. At great personal risk you entered this hut alone to effect his arrest, and when he attempted to escape you pursued and tackled him single-handed. From the information at your disposal you had every reason to suppose that he was armed, and your conduct in grappling with him single-handed was of the most meritorious character.

In recognition of the bravery which you displayed on that occasion, I have much pleasure in decorating you with the Indian Police Medal for Gallantry which has been awarded to you.

BABU KHAGENDRA NATH ADHIKARI.

On the 24th August 1941, you received information of a likely breach of the peace at Chandrakona Hat in Mymensingh District. You proceeded to the spot with a small police force and succeeded in arresting 5 members of one of the contending parties. The opposing party, numbering 200, refused to disperse and attacked two of your constables. Realising that your small force was in danger of being overpowered, you withdrew to a distance of about 30 yards and warned the rioters to disperse. When they refused to listen and again advanced to the attack, you fired 4 rounds from a musket, injuring one man. The rioters then retreated. In this operation you acted with great courage and resourcefulness in the face of an armed mob, and successfully prevented a serious riot. The enquiring Magistrate held that the firing was entirely justified and specially commended your conduct.

In recognition of the bravery which you displayed on that occasion, I have much pleasure in decorating you with the Indian Police Medal for Gallantry which has been awarded to you.

CONSTABLE AHMAD GHAZI.

On the 14th March, 1941, you were deputed to prevent a breach of the peace at a place some



distance from Mollahat Police-Station\* in Khulna District. On your arrival you found two large mobs of Namasudras and Muslims, who were preparing to attack each other. Realising that it would be impossible to disperse them without force, you assembled all the available dafadars and chaukidars, and with their help prevented the crowds from coming to blows. You showed conspicuous bravery in facing these mobs unarmed until the arrival of a Sub-Inspector with a force of Police 2½ hours later. Your action succeeded in delaying a riot at great personal risk to yourself.

In recognition of the bravery which you displayed on that occasion, I have much pleasure in decorating you with the Indian Police Medal for Gallantry which has been awarded to you.

#### CONSTABLE RADHA PROSAD PANDEY.

On the night of the 20th November, 1941, while on patrol duty with a head constable, you heard sounds of gun fire and cries of alarm in the distance. You ran to the place and found that a dacoity was in progress. On your arrival the dacoits fled, and although the local people did not assist you, you chased, overtook and pulled down one of the dacoits, who seriously wounded you in the thigh with a dagger; but despite this injury, you held on to your adversary until the head constable arrived and secured him. You had every reason to suppose that the dacoits were armed, and your conduct displayed great promptitude, initiative and gallantry.

In recognition of the bravery which you displayed on that occasion, I have much pleasure in decorating you with the Indian Police Medal for Gallantry which has been awarded to you.

CONSTABLE JOY MONGAL MAHATO.

On the 9th March 1941, you accompanied your Assistant Sub-Inspector and another constable on a house search, with a view to effecting the arrest of a criminal. The latter escaped after assaulting your fellow constable, but later mustered his family members and attacked the Assistant Sub-Inspector with a *dao*. Although armed only with a lathi, you continued for the space of half an hour to shield the Assistant Sub-Inspector from the blows that were rained upon him, and during this attack you yourself received certain injuries. Your courageous intervention saved his life, and your conduct throughout was extremely meritorious.

In recognition of the bravery which you displayed on that occasion, I have much pleasure in decorating you with the Indian Police Medal for Gallantry which has been awarded to you.

**His Excellency's Addresses to Gentlemen Invested  
at the Informal Investiture held at Government  
House, Dacca, on the 28th July 1942.**

**MR. BHUBAN MOHAN SEN, M.B.E.**

As Deputy Superintendent and Remembrancer of Legal Affairs, you rendered valuable assistance to the authorities during the Civil Disobedience Movement in 1930. You have also acted three times as a Stipendiary Presidency Magistrate in Calcutta, and you have been a member of the Traffic Advisory Board. In your present capacity as Secretary of the Civic Guard Sub-Committee and District Commandant of Civic Guards at Faridpur, you have built up the organisation there and have devoted your time, energy, attention and resources to raising the standard of the Civic Guards to a high pitch of efficiency. You have also played a prominent and useful part as a member of the committees for the selection of Air Force pilots, Emergency Commission candidates and war technicians.

In the name of the King-Emperor and by His Majesty's Command, I hand you the Badge of a Member of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire.

**KHAN BAHADUR MAULVI MUHAMMAD AKRAM.**

As Chairman of the Patuakhali Municipality you have shown yourself to be a staunch supporter of law and order and an excellent administrator. You have not only consistently helped the local

authorities in times of difficulty, but you have also done much to improve local civic amenities by the construction of new means of communications, the inauguration of an electric supply system, and the introduction of measures to combat epidemics. Your work for the people of Patuakhali has frequently been conducted without regard to your professional interests.

In recognition of your services, His Excellency the Viceroy has now been pleased to confer upon you the title of Khan Bahadur, and I have much pleasure in investing you with the Badge of that title.

**RAI PABITRA NATH BASU BAHADUR.**

After entering the Police Department as a clerk in 1907, you were appointed a Sub-Inspector two years later, and subsequently you performed excellent service as an Instructor at the Constables' Training School, Dacca, in various capacities in Mymensingh District and at the Police Training College, Sardah. You were confirmed as an Inspector in 1928 and were awarded the title of Rai Sahib in 1930 for your work in connection with the Civil Disobedience Movement. Your meritorious work as Assistant Commandant of the Berhampore Detention Camp resulted in your confirmation as Deputy Superintendent of Police in 1938, and you were recently appointed as Superintendent of the Hijli Special Jail. Throughout your career your work has been of great value to Government.

In recognition of your services, His Excellency the Viceroy has now been pleased to confer upon you the title of Rai Bahadur, and I have much pleasure in investing you with the Badge of that title.

**RAI PRAFULLA KUMAR GHOSH BAHADUR.**

Your work as Confidential Assistant to the Chief Secretaries of the Governments of Eastern Bengal and Assam and Bihar and Orissa, was characterised by honesty, loyalty and devotion to duty. Subsequently for more than twenty years you performed meritorious service under the Court of Wards, and as Manager of the Bhowal Court of Wards Estate you took a keen interest in the welfare of the tenants, in the local Boy Scouts Association and in the progress of other institutions at Bhowal. You did much also to encourage contributions to war funds. You were awarded the title of Rai Sahib in 1934, and since that date your work has continued to be of the greatest value to Government.

In recognition of your services, His Excellency the Viceroy has now been pleased to confer upon you the title of Rai Bahadur, and I have much pleasure in investing you with the Badge of that title.

**KHAN BAHADUR MAULVI GHYASUDDIN PATHAN.**

In your capacities as Vice-Chairman of the District Board and Municipality of Mymensingh, and as Assistant Public Prosecutor, you have

performed your duties with energy and thoroughness. Your influence has always been employed on the side of law and order, and you have done much for industrial uplift and the education of young men in the Gaffargaon area. You have also played an active and helpful part in all matters connected with war funds. You were awarded the title of Khan Sahib in 1939, and your subsequent activities have assisted Government and proved beneficial to the people of Mymensingh District.

In recognition of your services, His Excellency the Viceroy has now been pleased to confer upon you the title of Khan Bahadur, and I have much pleasure in investing you with the Badge of that title.

#### RAI PROMODE MOHAN CHAKRABATTI BAHADUR.

You have had a long and meritorious career covering more than 32 years in the Police Department, and you were confirmed as Deputy Superintendent of Police in 1935. From November 1940 you officiated as Additional Superintendent of Police, District Intelligence Branch, Dacca, and in this important charge your work has been of a very high order indeed. You were awarded the King's Police Medal in 1931, and the title of Rai Sahib five years later. Since then your work for Government has been consistently meritorious.

In recognition of your services, His Excellency the Viceroy has now been pleased to confer upon you the title of Rai Bahadur, and I have much pleasure in investing you with the Badge of that title.

**RAI KANTI CHANDRA MUKHARJI BAHADUR.**

Joining the Bengal Police as a Sub-Inspector in 1916, you were promoted to the rank of Inspector in 1927 and were confirmed as a Deputy Superintendent of Police in 1938. Throughout your career you have shown exceptional detective ability and have successfully investigated a number of very important and difficult cases. You received the title of Rai Sahib in the year 1935, and your subsequent work has continued to demonstrate your energy, zeal and ability and has proved to be of great value to Government.

In recognition of your services, His Excellency the Viceroy has now been pleased to confer upon you the title of Rai Bahadur, and I have much pleasure in investing you with the Badge of that title.

**KHAN SAHIB MAULVI MUHAMMAD SULTAN.**

After joining the Bengal Police as a Constable in 1910, you were appointed to officiate as an Inspector in 1919. This rapid promotion was justified by your subsequent work in the River Police, in which you rendered valuable service during the Steamer Strike of 1921. You have recently done excellent work in connection with the investigation of two important railway accident cases, and throughout your career your honesty and ability have earned for you the respect and confidence both of your superiors and of the public.

In recognition of your services, His Excellency the Viceroy has now been pleased to confer upon

you the title of Khan Sahib, and I have much pleasure in investing you with the Badge of that title.

**KHAN SAHIB MAULVI SAADAT HOSSAIN CHAUDHURI.**

You were selected for Subdivisional work on account of the excellence of your previous service, and your tenure of office as Subdivisional Officer of Pirozepur, Bakarganj District, fully justified that selection. In this post you gave evidence of energy, resourcefulness, tact and high administrative ability, and your work has brought you the esteem of members of all communities, and has been of great value to Government.

In recognition of your services, His Excellency the Viceroy has now been pleased to confer upon you the title of Khan Sahib, and I have much pleasure in investing you with the Badge of that title.

**KHAN SAHIB ABEDUDDIN AHMED.**

You have been a prominent medical practitioner in Dacca since 1926, and your public spirited and humanitarian activities have greatly benefited the people of that city. You have interested yourself also in Muslim education and have acted as Honorary Instructor in First Aid at the Dacca Collegiate and Government Muslim High Schools.

In recognition of your services, His Excellency the Viceroy has now been pleased to confer upon you the title of Khan Sahib, and I have much pleasure in investing you with the Badge of that title.



**KHAN SAHIB MAULVI MUHAMMAD 'ABUDULLA  
CHOUDHURY.**

You have for many years done excellent work as President of the Bhaluka Union Board, Mymensingh District, and you have imparted your own principles to your two sons, both of whom are also active and energetic Presidents of Union Boards. You have proved of great assistance to the local administration in all its branches, and your integrity has won for you the respect and regard of the people of your locality.

In recognition of your services, His Excellency the Viceroy has now been pleased to confer upon you the title of Khan Sahib, and I have much pleasure in investing you with the Badge of that title.

**KHAN SAHIB MAULVI ABUL FAZL MUHAMMAD  
ABDUL ALI.**

As President of the Ratail Union Board for eight years, you have performed excellent service to the people of your Union, and your administration of the Union Bench, Union Court, Debt Settlement Board and Union Jute Committee has been meritorious. You did excellent flood relief work in 1938 to 1939, and you have made large contributions to a charitable dispensary and a school at Ghonapara.

In recognition of your services, His Excellency the Viceroy has now been pleased to confer upon you the title of Khan Sahib, and I have much pleasure in investing you with the Badge of that title.

**RAI SAHIB DINESH CHANDRA DAS GUPTA.**

You entered the Public Works Department in 1913, and after twenty-eight years' service you were promoted to the rank of Executive Engineer. In the latter capacity you did excellent work in connection with the building of the Manipur Agricultural Farm and Institute at Dacca, and you have also shown your capacity in the construction of important roads and reinforced concrete bridges.

In recognition of your services, His Excellency the Viceroy has now been pleased to confer upon you the title of Rai Sahib, and I have much pleasure in investing you with the Badge of that title.

**KHAN SAHIB MAULVI BAZLUR RAHMAN.**

After appointment as Sub-Deputy Collector in 1915 you were promoted to the grade of Deputy Magistrate in 1929, and since 1931 you have held charge of a number of Subdivisions. Your work as Sadar Subdivisional Officer, 24-Parganas District, has been characterised by your keen interest in rural reconstruction and by the efficiency with which you have dealt with communal troubles. You have also worked very hard in connection with Civil Defence, A.R.P. and War Fund activities in your Subdivision.

In recognition of your services, His Excellency the Viceroy has now been pleased to confer upon you the title of Khan Sahib, and I have much pleasure in investing you with the Badge of that title.

**KHAN SAHIB MAULVI MUHAMMAD ISMAIL.**

Your work both as Sub-Registrar and Honorary Magistrate at Pirozepur, Bakarganj District, has been greatly appreciated by both, Executive and Judicial Officers for many years. You have exercised 1st class Magisterial powers for the past six years and the performance of your duties has been characterised throughout by integrity, ability and devotion to duty.

In recognition of your services, His Excellency the Viceroy has now been pleased to confer upon you the title of Khan Sahib, and I have much pleasure in investing you with the Badge of that title.

**KHAN SAHIB MAULVI MUHAMMAD ELAHI BUKSHA.**

Your work as President of the Longair Union Board, Mymensingh, has been most efficient, and you have also rendered excellent service in connection with Debt Settlement and Jute Restriction operations. Your labours as Charge Superintendent during the last Census were of great assistance to the authorities, and you have done much to popularise Defence Savings Certificates. You have also contributed liberally to the establishment of a High School and of an Islamic Senior Madrassah.

In recognition of your services, His Excellency the Viceroy has now been pleased to confer upon you the title of Khan Sahib, and I have much pleasure in investing you with the Badge of that title.

**RAI SAHIB HARI MOHAN BASU.**

You entered the service of Government in 1910, and after working in various districts, you eventually attained to the post of District Sub-Registrar of Pabna. During the whole of your long career in the Registration Department your record of work and of conduct was uniformly good, and you proved yourself to be a most useful Government servant. Your work as an Honorary Magistrate was also of a high order.

In recognition of your services, His Excellency the Viceroy has now been pleased to confer upon you the title of Rai Sahib, and I have much pleasure in investing you with the Badge of that title.

**RAI SAHIB SARAT CHANDRA GUHA.**

Your career in the Bengal Junior Civil Service lasted from 1911 until 1941, and throughout the whole of those thirty years you showed yourself to be a most conscientious and hard working officer. Your services throughout were of the greatest value to Government.

In recognition of your services, His Excellency the Viceroy has now been pleased to confer upon you the title of Rai Sahib, and I have much pleasure in investing you with the Badge of that title.

**RAI SAHIB TARA KANTA DAS.**

You have made yourself prominent in Barisal as a landlord and banker and have done good work in connection with the Special Debt Settlement

Board, the local branch of the Indian Red Cross and the Barisal Co-operative Central and Union Banks. You have also contributed generously to the Baby Clinic and Maternity Ward of the Sadar Hospital, and your donations thereto were of particular value because they were made at a time of serious economic distress.

In recognition of your services, His Excellency the Viceroy has now been pleased to confer upon you the title of Rai Sahib, and I have much pleasure in investing you with the Badge of that title.

**MR. CLIFFORD ALOYSIUS NORONHA.**

As Subdivisional Officer, Bhola, Bakarganj District, you showed a keen interest in raising subscriptions for war funds and were responsible for the fact that the contributions from Bhola Sub-Division represented half the total amount subscribed by the district. In connection with the Cyclone Relief Operations you showed great resource, energy and zeal and you carried on this work at the expense of your personal comfort.

On behalf of His Excellency the Viceroy, I present you with the Kaisar-I-Hind Medal in Silver for public service in India.

**MAULVI KEYAMUDDIN AHMED.**

You have a long record of satisfactory work in the Bengal Junior Civil Service, and you have recently shown yourself to be resourceful and tactful in the distribution of cyclone relief in

**Mymensingh District.** You have thereby conferred considerable benefits upon the people of the areas affected, and you have also given great assistance to the authorities by encouraging local war fund propaganda.

On behalf of His Excellency the Viceroy, I present you with the Kaiser-I-Hind Medal in Bronze for public service in India.

## **His Excellency's Speech at the Dacca Union Boards Conference on the 29th July 1942.**

Before I refer to the many interesting matters raised in Mr. Salim's report, I must first thank the Hon'ble Minister for inviting me to open your Conference to-day.

I need perhaps hardly say that it gives me the greatest pleasure to meet you again after a lapse of two years. I must confess that it causes me some surprise to hear that the Association of the Dacca District Union Boards, which is now holding its 23rd Annual Conference, has not as yet received official recognition. I am, however, assured that when formal application for recognition is received by Government, it will be considered favourably. I am entirely confident that such conferences as the one assembled here to-day can be of great value and assistance to all concerned, and I hope that your deliberations, and the resolutions which you will discuss later in the day will prove helpful both to the cause of local self-government and to the Provincial Government.

The report of the Chairman of the District Board contains a lucid and comprehensive survey of the ways in which you, the Presidents of the Union Boards of the Dacca District, can serve your country in this hour of peril. You will all recall the circumstances under which the Union Board Conference was abandoned last year. Dacca, the second city of Bengal, had been for several months

a storm centre of a tragic communal conflict—a conflict which spread even to the rural areas of Raipura, Shibpur and Narshingdi. It is essential that the citizens of Dacca should sink their differences and should not by mere passive tolerance only but also by active and positive co-operation, build up the National War Front in the face of the common enemy. I now appeal to you as the leaders of rural Bengal to play your part in this great effort. Mr. Salim has already mentioned various ways in which you can help. Yours is the duty to stamp out the enemy within, so that the men fighting in the front line can defend you, your homes, your lands and your future without being stabbed in the back. The rumour-monger, the profiteer, the idler and the thief are as much the enemy as the Japanese who now threaten our eastern borders. Seek out and crush the rumour-monger, seek out the profiteer and expose him, seek out the idler and encourage him to do more work and to grow more food, seek out the thief and deliver him to justice.

I would in particular ask you to deal rigorously with the rumour-monger who seeks to create a feeling of distrust. There are two particular rumours to which I wish to refer. One is true and the other untrue. It is true that there has been a rise in the price of many commodities. The Hon'ble Minister will explain in greater detail the measures being taken by Government to ensure control, but I want to assure you that I and my Government realise the importance of assuring a



reasonable standard of prices. It may well be that district control is insufficient, that control on a provincial basis will not achieve the desired end, and that control must be co-ordinated by Provinces and also, as between Provinces, by the Central Government. Rumour-mongers will tell you that Government is doing nothing to control prices, but I want to emphasise Government's appreciation of the difficulties and the issues at stake.

The other rumour which is untrue is in respect of notice given and compensation paid to those who have to evacuate land required for military purposes or to those who lose their employment as a result of Military necessity. There have been one or two cases in which insufficient notice was given and in which there were considerable delays in payment. I can assure you, however, that except in very exceptional cases 8 days' notice will be given. When agricultural land is requisitioned, the owner will receive compensation equivalent to what he would have received had he harvested his crop. If he is to leave his home, he will receive compensation to provide himself with adequate accommodation elsewhere. After the war when such persons return to their lands and homesteads, they will receive compensation for any deterioration that may have occurred in either. You will thus appreciate that the man who is evicted from his land is in a sense better off than if he had remained upon it. He will have no expenses for alternative accommodation, he will receive money without having to work by the sweat of his brow and when

he 'returns,' he is assured protection against loss. Compensation has been and will be paid with the least possible delay and a cash advance will be given in all cases. You will realise, however, that owing to the complicated land tenure system of this Province, it is not always easy to assess the exact compensation in a short time. Within these limits I and my Government definitely intend to see that such persons who are evicted from agricultural land shall not suffer monetary loss. We cannot prevent inconvenience. The war is causing inconvenience to a very large number of persons in a large number of countries. What we can do is to ensure against direct financial loss and that we are attempting.

There also arises\* the case of the person who is deprived of his means of livelihood through the necessities of war, perhaps by the removal of his boat. As far as the boat itself is concerned, ample compensation is assured, and in addition the man will be given the equivalent of two months' income as compensation. This again has been the subject of rumours and has been seized upon by agitators wishing to make political capital of it. The only difference between the scale which the Government has drawn up and the scale proposed by critics of Government is that these latter propose to give 6 months' income as compensation, whereas the Government scale is two months' income. Government feel that when analysed their proposals are more beneficial than those of their critics. If the critics' proposals were accepted, it would mean that

we would give 6 months' income as compensation without further assistance. The Government's proposal means that compensation will be paid and that attempts will be made to find alternative employment. In some cases new types of employment have successfully been found for instance, in the making of camouflage nets. In other cases land will be developed for the benefit of those who have lost their income. I think you will agree that Government's proposals are far-seeing and as far as possible meet all cases of hardship. I repeat that in times of war it is impossible to eradicate inconvenience. That cannot be helped. The Hon'ble Minister will no doubt amplify the points which I have mentioned. I feel that you should know the difficulties and what is being done to meet them, so that you can counter those critics who seek to undermine confidence and I ask for your co-operation in explaining these matters to the people of your Unions.

These are the ways in which you can be of immediate service to your country. But your duty has a broader aspect even than this. You must root out and destroy among yourselves all communal and factional feeling. You must not allow your Union Boards to be the cockpit of petty party or communal strife. Work with your members for the general good and win the confidence, the affection and the gratitude of the people themselves.

Mr. Salim has referred to the material progress that has been made ; but there is still work to be done. I know that the means at your disposal are

not inexhaustible. Reference has been made to the Chaukidari Enquiry Committee. I must agree that there has been delay in implementing the proposals contained in the Committee's report. The most important of these is the recommendation that Government should assume responsibility for paying chaukidars and daffadars. If this is accepted, you could undoubtedly devote all the resources of Union Boards to what are sometimes called "Nation-building activities". It must be realised, however, that if Government accepts the proposed liability, it will have to replenish its own coffers by increased taxation in some other direction, for the Government Treasury is not a magic box which produces gold at the waving of a wand. At present, therefore, when our expenditure on civil defence is so heavy and when we are straining our financial resources to the utmost to meet the demands of war, it is inevitable that less pressing needs must take second place. This, however, is no reason for suspending action in other directions. Great strides have already been made to improve rural water supply, sanitation, public health and communications. In all these spheres of activity the Union Boards have played an admirable part and may well be proud of their achievement; but achievement must not give rise to complacency. Progress made must not be confused with perfection. The District Board has already done much to assist in your work and will, I know, continue to do what it can in spite of all its own difficulties. You for your part should see that your authority is wisely

employed and that your powers are not permitted to rust by disuse.

The Chairman in his report has referred to the lack of response which the District Board has experienced regarding the transfer to Union Boards of village roads and District Board dispensaries. I sincerely hope that Union Boards will undertake responsibility for them to the best of their ability. I am sure you will find that the District Board will help those that help themselves in respect of these purely local concerns, and that you will not be the losers in the long run.

I shall not deal in detail with the various resolutions which will be put forward for your consideration, but I welcome that which properly finds the first place in the list and proposes that you should make a determined and combined effort for the preservation of internal peace and security and for resistance against outside aggressors. The remaining resolutions, which relate to administrative matters, will be dealt with under the guidance of the Hon'ble Minister in charge of the Department. The Department is concerned with administration and not with politics, and the Hon'ble Mr. Santosh Kumar Basu is here to-day, not as a Party man, but in his capacity as a Member of the Council of Ministers. This is a distinction which is based upon Parliamentary practice, and it has an important bearing upon democratic government in general and local self-government in particular. Union Boards form part of a hierarchy of authority, which stretches from them through Local and District Boards to

the Department of Local Self-Government. This Department is only one of the various sections of the Provincial Government itself, and the Ministry, who with the Governor constitute the Provincial Government, are at all times responsible to the Provincial Legislature. It is this hierarchy and progressive responsibility which differentiates democracy from totalitarian rule. In the Axis States Government is synonymous with one single Party, which permits the existence of no other party whatever. Such a Government is in entire control, not only of the administration, but also of the legislature, and inasmuch as it brooks no opposition from any quarter, it is entirely irresponsible, and in consequence is inevitably autocratic. It is quite useless for the Nazis, the Fascists and the Japanese to pretend either that the systems of Government centred in Berlin, Rome and Tokyo pay any regard to the wishes of the people of Germany, Italy and Japan if these happen to conflict with the interests of their masters, or that those who enjoy the mastery in these countries have any intention of permitting a different constitutional system in any land which may fall into their clutches. The system which we enjoy in this Province is derived from Great Britain and is based upon the twin theories of a free Parliament and of self-governing local institutions. I am concerned at the moment mainly with the second of these theories, which has progressively developed in Bengal ever since the Bengal Local Self-Government Act was enacted in 1885.

Since that time there has been steady progress, not merely in the conferment of powers upon local authorities, but also in the increase of the number of such authorities themselves. Your Union Boards, as they are at present, were created by the Act of 1919, and while the District Boards correspond roughly to the County Councils of England, Union Boards can be compared to those Rural District Councils which obtain in most English Counties. Your powers are inevitably restricted in some degree by your financial resources, but these powers do enable you to do much for the welfare of local areas, provided that you are prepared to exercise them. I am aware that this exercise is dependent upon the assessment and collection of union rates, but I am satisfied that no one can reasonably expect something for nothing. If people desire better roads, more tube-wells, an improved system of sanitation and an increase in public health amenities, they must be prepared to pay for them. It is the duty of the Provincial Government to exercise through its various Departments a degree of control over local authorities, and the existence and the extent of that control should not be misunderstood. It is an essential concomitant of the very theory of local self-government, and it must inevitably be largely a financial control. Government obtains its revenues mainly from taxation, and it must ensure that its resources are properly expended. While, therefore, the past 60 years have witnessed great strides in local self-government, you should not imagine that the ultimate object is the complete elimination of

Government's controlling authority. On the other hand, I have no doubt that we shall in the future see still greater powers conferred upon Union Boards, provided that they are ready to employ them for salutary purposes, and it is up to you as Presidents of these Boards to see that present progress is not retarded, and that the Boards go from strength to strength and do not languish in a static condition.

Union Boards provide one of the best of all training grounds for the legislator and the administrator. Unless a man is well-versed in administrative detail, it is difficult to believe that he will be competent to administer a province. It has nearly always been found in Great Britain that experience of local self-government has proved of the highest value to the politician who aspires to high office. Union Board work is the best form of initiation into legislative work that I know of, and it is for that reason that I stress the value and importance of what you Presidents are doing and what you can do. Do not forget also the other side of the medal. With the great enlargement of the legislative franchise introduced by the Act of 1935, you have a personal interest in the administration of the Province and a personal stake in its well-being. You should, therefore, see to it that those whom you may elect to represent you in the Legislative Assembly or the Legislative Council are truly representative of the interests and localities which send them to Calcutta, and you should not hesitate to insist that they give voice in the Legislature to what you believe to be best for their constituents. This is not a matter of



party politics. It is of the highest importance that members of the Legislature should be in close touch with local affairs, and the Presidents of Union Boards are the obvious channels for obtaining information and a correct perspective of local feelings. This would always be the case in normal times, and it is even more true in such times of danger and difficulty as we are experiencing at the moment.

The threat from without and the danger of political and communal strife within, make it imperative that every man should give of his best in the service of his country. I would like to remind you that the Union Boards are ultimate units of Government and that it is to you, as Presidents of Union Boards, that the cultivator, who has rightly been described as the backbone of the country, looks for leadership and guidance. Yours is a great responsibility. When you go back to your unions, you will be able to infuse into the people a spirit of unity and determination which will provide the greatest bulwark against that enemy whose aggression against the peace-loving peasant peoples of China and East Asia constitutes a crime unparalleled in history for its calculated violence. I know that the trust in you is not misplaced, and I look to you to make the people realise, not only their duties as citizens, but that democracy cannot survive until the Axis Powers are finally routed.

**His Excellency's Speech at the Eastern Bengal  
• Saraswat Samaj Convocation, Dacca, on the  
31st July 1942.**

LEARNED PANDITS OF THE SARASWAT SAMAJ,

The sixty-fifth anniversary of the foundation of your Association is an occasion which I am proud to share with you, and I am grateful for the warm welcome which you have extended to me and for the appreciative and loyal sentiments to which your Treasurer has given expression. I know that my wife would like to have been with you to-day, and her regret that other engagements have kept her elsewhere is no less than mine.

We meet for the third time under the shadow of the Greatest War in history. Since I last addressed you, this conflict has grown wider in extent and more terrible in effect, and to-day those brigands who have destroyed the peace of the peoples by calculated violence are making the most desperate attempts to achieve world domination by means of international banditry on a vast scale. The Nazis and their minions are aiming at the hearts of Russia and of Egypt, and at this moment their armies on the Don and at El Alamein are striving to subdue the whole of the Middle East. Their imitators the Japanese, the most competent copyists of modern times, in the execution of nefarious and long-prepared schemes of conquest have over-run and pillaged many fair lands in Southern Asia. They are now attempting

to complete the ruin of free China which, for five years, has so staunchly defied their concentrated malice. India thus stands as a strong bastion against these two tides of evil, and after more than a century of tranquillity Bengal confronts the enemy on her eastern borders. This city of Dacca itself is not far from the actual conflict, and in consequence of these strange developments you, learned Pandits, find yourselves participants in a struggle beside which even the great engagements depicted in the Mahabharata seem like the "battles of the frogs and the mice that the old tales went of".

The pride of the Totalitarian Powers has given this struggle a character of its own, which results directly from the unscrupulous nature of their ambitions. Coleridge has a passage which so aptly describes the mentality of the Axis nations that I have no hesitation in quoting it to you. He says—"Hope, in which there is no cheerfulness; steadfastness within and immovable resolve, with outward restlessness and whirling activity; violence with guile; temerity with cunning; and, as the result of all, interminableness of object with perfect indifference of means; these are the marks which have characterised the masters of mischiefs, the liberticides and mighty hunters of mankind, from Nimrod to Napoleon. And even men of honest intentions too frequently become fascinated. Nay, whole nations have been so far duped as to regard with palliative admiration, instead of abhorrence, the Molochs of human nature, who dare to say with

their whole heart 'Evil, be thou my good !'." We have only to substitute the Axis for Napoleon to fit this cap perfectly. These systematic criminals, self-consistent in their wickedness, have entrenched villainy, within villainy and barricaded crime by crime in their determination to have no obstacles but those of force and brute matter.

The ancient Greeks condemned that "hubris" or satanic pride which leads some men to exalt themselves above their fellows. This is the crime of which these wicked men are guilty, and nowhere has their flail descended more fiercely than upon those spiritual values which differentiate Man from the beasts that perish. Nowhere has it beaten more grievously than upon institutions and associations such as yours, which exist for the propagation and preservation of learning and culture. Germany was once renowned for bold theological speculation and for musical genius of the highest order. Italy for centuries occupied the foremost place in the European gallery of the fine arts. Japan practised with a skilful technique what she had borrowed from the Chinese. Look at these countries to-day. Every form of activity has, for several years past, been subordinated to the alleged needs of the State and to the requirements of the militarists who control the State; and the inevitable result is that learning stands at a discount, and that culture, as we understand it, is dying if not already dead. In the countries conquered by these militarists the situation is even more serious. There, the centres of culture have been the peculiar object of their

animosity, and they are doing their 'utmost' to destroy intellectual integrity and the impartial search for truth. Universities, colleges and schools, instead of remaining as homes of free learning, have been compelled either to conform to a rigid programme or to close their doors. Professors and other learned men have been branded as political criminals because they refused to instruct to order. Many have been driven abroad. Others have been herded into concentration camps and subjected to the vilest treatment. Some have died for their beliefs and for their refusal to betray their trust. It is impossible for us to view with equanimity these crimes against the intellect and this general degradation of intellectual standards, and it is for this reason that the work which you are doing is of such inestimable value to the welfare and progress of Bengal.

There is no need to despair of the future. History teaches us that God's universe is not "Belial's and a Lie", and that the inevitability of man's upward march cannot be stayed by temporary setbacks. The members of this Samaj will agree with me that the present is but a part of the picture. The past and its masterpieces, the classical languages and their literature, teach us, in the words of Hazlitt, "to believe that there is something really great and excellent in the world, surviving all the shocks of accident and fluctuations of opinion, and raise us above that low and servile fear which bows only to present power and upstart authority. We feel the presence of that power

which gives immortality to human thoughts and action, and catch the flame of enthusiasm from all nations and ages." Your work is performed quietly and unostentatiously. You do not seek either the "applause of listening senates" or the plaudits of posterity. You are content to preserve undefiled the pure well of scholarship, and to keep the torch of Sanskrit culture shining like a beacon in a benighted world. In this you are performing one of the noblest of human services, and your pupils and successors will thank you for your efforts. In the Dark Ages the light of learning in Europe was preserved by the Religious Orders against the assaults of barbarism. Once again the barbarians are threatening the extinguishment of that light, but you can and will play your part as its torch-bearers.

The study of ancient languages and the contemplation of eternal verities at a time when the world is convulsed by war is not to be confused with escapism. The escapist is a person who feels unable to face the complexities of modern life, and seeks to avoid its difficulties by running away from them. He is like an ostrich, who buries its head in the sand in an effort to avoid contact with possible danger. You, learned Pandits, are not escapists. It may be that many of you live secluded lives in remote places, and that your studies bear little direct relation to what is going on around you. I am certain, however, that you have not sought in these studies a refuge from the troubles of the moment, and I am confident that your researches

will make you the more ready to play your part in standing firm upon a scruple and in helping your fellowmen to present a brave and united front towards the dangers which threaten all alike. Unfortunately these dangers are internal as well as external. We have witnessed during the past year a series of communal disorders in this city, which must appear intolerable to those who, like you, entertain a comprehensive, and not merely a sectional view of life. You provide a cultural and philosophic scheme of training, which takes no account of personal, political or communal considerations. It recks nothing of temporary materialistic advantages, and its goal is the preservation of traditional learning and the enrichment of culture for its own sake. I believe that if your influence could be more widely felt and your aims more extensively appreciated, this great Province would no longer be shamed by those exhibitions of communal rancour which have sullied its reputation.

I appreciate the difficulties which you have experienced during this year, and it is satisfactory to know that you have largely overcome them. You have maintained those standards of scholastic achievement which are your immediate objective, and you have not allowed yourselves to be diverted from your aims by the noise and dust of international strife. This continuity of development is a reassuring sign of the strength and permanence of your work, and is proof positive that it comprises an element of essential value to Indian

Civilization. It is gratifying to hear that your endeavours have been appreciated by various benefactors and well-wishers, and for my part I have much pleasure in offering you once again a grant to help you on your way.

Learned Pandits, I am convinced that retribution awaits those who have "shut the gates of mercy on mankind", and that before long we shall see the dawn of that day which heralds the return of an era of peace and happiness, truth and justice. Meanwhile I am confident that you will continue to go from strength to strength, and it is in that belief that I wish you success and prosperity during the coming year.



**His Excellency's Address to Maulvi Muhammad Abdul Wahab on the occasion of presenting to him Kaisar-I-Hind Medal in Bronze on the 3rd August 1942.**

In addition to the performance of your judicial duties, you have found time during the past two years to play a leading part in the collection of war funds and in the organisation of War Fund Committees in Chittagong and Dacca Districts, and as Secretary of the Narayanganj Subdivisional General War Fund Purposes Committee you have given a lead which is entirely admirable. You have also assisted in the maintenance of communal harmony, and have established a charitable dispensary and a Middle English School in your own village.

On behalf of His Excellency the Viceroy, I present you with the Kaisar-I-Hind Medal in Bronze for public service in India.

**His Excellency's Speech at the Joint Session of the  
Bengal Legislative Council and the Bengal  
Legislative Assembly on the 14th September  
1942.**

MR. PRESIDENT, MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER AND  
MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATURE :—

The Legislature has been convened for this short session mainly to enable hon'ble members to consider the present situation in the Province and the measures which have been taken by Government for its security and well-being.

When I addressed the Assembly in April last the Japanese were completing their occupation of Burma and the threat of an attack upon Bengal seemed imminent. Five months have passed and apart from the air raids on Chittagong and certain places in Assam, that threat has not yet materialised. We should be thankful that we have had time further to improve the arrangements for safeguarding the civil population to which I referred in my last address. It would, however, be most unwise to imagine that because the threat has been deferred, it no longer exists. Instead we should realise that its gravity may increase as the end of the monsoon and the beginning of the cold weather approach.

I trust that the coming debates will enable hon'ble members once again to take stock of the position and that they, in the light of their experience, will give us constructive advice as to

the adequacy of Government's policy and as to any further measures desirable for safeguarding the people of this Province; and I hope that hon'ble members will approach these serious issues with a due realisation of their importance.'

The task of protecting the civil population falls partly upon the Fighting Services—the Navy, Army and Air Force—and partly upon the Civil authorities. The Fighting Forces now here to protect us comprise representatives of many parts of India and of the Allied Nations. We should show these men and women, many of them visitors in a strange land, that we welcome them in our midst. I am glad to know that the relationship between the civil population and the Defence Services is universally friendly. Their meetings in the fields of sport and at social gatherings have, I am sure, bridged any possible gulf of misunderstanding. It is also gratifying to know that so many persons representing all interests and communities have paid a tribute to the Defence Services by subscribing to the Christmas and New Year gifts fund the purpose of which is to carry our Yuletide and New Year good wishes to those who are here to defend us, many of them living in circumstances of considerable discomfort. I hope some hon'ble members may find an opportunity to see and appreciate some of the hardships of the troops. I feel there are many of us who have not appreciated the discomforts of troops who are on active service though not actually engaged with the enemy. Indeed, I feel that many town dwellers are too

little conscious of the lack of amenities beyond their immediate surroundings, and that the needs of the rural population in general deserve better attention.

But I digress: I propose now to deal with some general aspects of Government policy, the importance of which will, I feel sure, be appreciated by you.

One of our most pressing needs is the denial to the enemy of all forms of transport and supplies which may be useful to him in his operations. It is for this very cogent reason that Government have found it necessary to control the movement of boats in coastal areas, to remove the inhabitants of certain localities, and to shift surplus stocks of foodstuffs from places exposed to the threat of invasion. I observe in passing that these surplus stocks of foodstuffs are required, and can be used, in other parts of the Province.

The application of the policy of denial inevitably entails some hardship and inconvenience. But it must be remembered that unfortunately war is always liable to involve widespread suffering; and I trust that hon'ble members will take occasion to explain to their constituents that, although inconvenience is inevitable, the discomfort so far caused to some inhabitants of our Province cannot be weighed against the disasters which have overtaken vast numbers of people in countries occupied by the Axis Powers. It certainly bears no comparison with what we should suffer should the Japanese invade Bengal.

While inconvenience affecting many sections of the population is inevitable, Government are determined to make every attempt to ensure that no undue hardship falls upon the very poor. Government have, therefore, made arrangements for the prompt payment of such liberal compensation as to impose the least possible burden upon those who are the least able to bear it. As I have said, it is our purpose to see, not merely that adequate compensation is paid, but also that it is paid promptly. Detailed instructions to this effect have been issued; and I hope that members of the Legislature will help by explaining to the people the policy of Government, so that time and labour are not wasted in the investigation of groundless complaints. I would ask them to endeavour to instil a spirit of co-operation in the public mind, so that the people may realise that Government, in acting for the interests of the country as a whole, is acting in their interests also.

In connection with the compulsory requisitioning of land and the resulting dispossession of its occupiers rumours have been rife that land has been peremptorily seized without notice by the Defence authorities, that adequate compensation has not been paid and that great suffering has resulted in consequence. I am advised that these rumours are almost entirely baseless. The detailed work in connection with requisitioning for military purposes is mostly carried out by civil officers of this Province conversant with local conditions, who endeavour to ensure that full compensation is paid

with the utmost despatch. I am also advised that the scales of compensation which have been laid down are adequate; and a leaflet on this subject issued by the Public Relations Committee is now available to members of the Legislature. It is inevitable that difficulties should ensue from operations of this kind, but such difficulties as there are provide no sufficient ground for some of the stories which have been put about. Similar misleading rumours have been current regarding the payment of every type of compensation, particularly in respect of boats.

Government is doing its best also to compensate, and provide alternative occupation for, those who have lost their means of livelihood. A number of fishermen, for instance, are now being employed on remunerative wages in the making of camouflage netting. Some boatmen and cultivators have been found employment in new areas. Cultivators who have had to leave their lands are in many cases being paid compensation sufficient to cover, not merely the cost of their temporary residence elsewhere but also the normal net earnings which they would have derived from their own lands, and any deterioration in the value of their property during its occupation by Government. Members of the Legislature can do much to counteract misleading reports, and I earnestly hope that they will acquaint themselves with the true facts and present them clearly to their constituents.

Another activity of Government to which I would refer is Civil Defence. Under this head are

included large scale A. R. P. organisations in our principal towns, which comprise Control and Report Centres, Depots, Warden and Messenger Services, First Aid and Rescue Parties, the Fire-Fighting Services and House Protection Parties. Very considerable progress has been made in the development of these varied services and organisations. They have not yet been put to the test, but repeated practices and exercises have shown encouraging results, and there is good reason to believe that, when the real time of trial comes, their members will stand firm and justify the trust reposed in them. But it must be remembered that all these workers, paid or unpaid, must have behind them the active co-operation and goodwill of the public whom they serve. It is here that you, the members of the Legislature, the chosen representatives of the people, have a direct responsibility to your electorate and a clear duty before you. I hope that every one of you will interest himself in the A. R. P. work of his constituency will give that work his encouragement by precept and by example, will explain its importance and will urge the absolute necessity for the support of his constituents for measures designed to protect their own lives and to safeguard their own property.

Preparations for the protection of the urban population include the building of shelters, the digging of trenches and in particular the instruction of the civil population. An air raid is a terrifying ordeal; but if the civil population is staunch and ready, and knows what precautions to take, there

is far less danger than is generally supposed. Our task is to ensure that these preparations are complete, that the A. R. P. services are disciplined and adequate, and that the general population knows what to do when the alarm sounds.

I wish to emphasize that no air-raid warning is a practice warning unless specific intimation has been given in advance to that effect. The fact that a warning is not followed by a raid is no ground for taking warnings lightly. We are at war ; and it is better to have alarms without raids than raids without alarms.

It is inevitable that large scale activities of this kind should remain strictly under official control. The people of Britain have set us a fine example by their readiness to submit in time of war to a degree of control which they would not consider in times of peace. I see no reason why non-official support should not be forthcoming to assist the official control. Government is prepared to accord the utmost facilities to any person or association of individuals who can and will help in any form of Civil Defence work ; but no Government can divest itself of its responsibility for the co-ordination and direction of all activities in this field.\* The power of co-ordination and direction must, therefore, be vested in the official executive.

The question of adequate supplies of foodstuffs at reasonable prices for workers and the poorer classes generally is at the present time of the greatest importance. The Fighting Services are largely dependent upon the workers in the field of



supply in which we are proud to know that Bengal plays so large a part. It is, therefore, essential for Government to see to it that the workers have adequate means of subsistence; and we gratefully acknowledge the great assistance rendered by those firms which have arranged for the supply of grain to their employees at reasonable prices.

Much has been said of the present shortage of foodstuffs and the high level of prices. The problem presents undoubted difficulties. Government are fully alive to their responsibilities to the workers and the poorer sections of the public and are perfecting an organisation to examine and deal with these questions. Already Government have opened a number of shops for sale of grain to the public at controlled prices. In relation to the actual position regarding stocks, I would only observe that transport difficulties have contributed to a shortage of wheat and even more to a shortage of sugar, a commodity of which there is plenty in India as a whole. We hear a good deal about the shortage of rice; but the next three or four weeks will see the prospects of our winter-crop assured, and many of those who are in the best position to know are of opinion that people who are now holding on to stocks in the hope of higher prices will in a month's time bitterly regret that they did not sell more freely and "cash in" while prices were high.

An All-India Price Control Conference which recently met at Delhi was attended by representatives from Bengal; and I will not attempt to

forecast any administrative measures in this field which may be evolved as a result of the deliberations of the Conference, which may well be of more than provincial significance.

I now turn to the deplorable disturbances which have been, and to some extent still are, endangering the peace and orderly conduct of Bengal in common with other parts of India. Of one thing I am assured—that the great mass of the people of this Province want nothing better than peace, freedom of thought, freedom of worship and an equal opportunity to enjoy the basic amenities of life; and it is in *their* interests, and in the furtherance of *their* aspirations, that my Government have felt bound to deal vigorously and severely with the forces of disorder.

I am convinced that the vast majority of the people of Bengal have no sympathy with this series of disturbances and attempts to upset the normal life of the community. I shall not attempt to examine here the forces by which these subversive activities are directed. Fortunately, Bengal has not so far suffered the injury inflicted upon other Provinces; but quite enough has been done here to indicate the existence of a deliberate design, not merely to render administration difficult, but also to interfere with the war effort, and specially with the production of war materials. At a critical juncture in the greatest war in history it is impossible to regard with complacency activities such as these.

It has been suggested that these troubles are the work of irresponsible elements, and that unnecessary severity has led to the punishment of the innocent.

“Irresponsible” is a singularly mild description of persons who have produced, and are continuing, a situation in which tramcars are set on fire, roads are blocked by obstruction, important documents are removed from Government Offices and burnt, attacks are made on railway stations and official buildings, and there is widespread defiance of lawful authority. No Government can tolerate such attempts at its subversion. I am sure you will agree that the Police would be doing less than their duty if they did not seek to prevent them.

It is very possible, when force has to be used, that innocent persons may suffer, but upon whom does the responsibility lie? Primarily upon those who incite the ignorant to acts of sabotage and violence. Nor can those be absolved of responsibility who, knowing better, condone—or at any rate fail to condemn—these senseless acts of cruelty and destruction. Indeed, I feel that one of the most regrettable features in the situation is the infrequency of open condemnation of these outrages by law-abiding and responsible persons. Further, in sympathising with innocent sufferers, let us not forget those who suffered at the hands of the forces of violence, some of them officials—police and others in the execution of their duty.

The task of those responsible for maintaining law and order is at all times difficult, requiring tact

and determination. Arm-chair critics considering the situation at leisure after the event often fail to appreciate that firm and speedy action has restored order when weakness or inaction would have meant chaos and damage to person and property.

That this Province has not been the scene of widespread disorder is to a great extent due to the Services responsible for ensuring law and order; and I ask hon'ble members to appreciate their difficulties and to realise the thanks we owe them. The officers of those services may rest assured: they deserve the gratitude of all law-abiding citizens.

In conclusion, I will touch on that broad issue which is nearest to the hearts of us all. If anything is certain, it is that the security of this country, and this Province, are in deadly peril from the Axis powers. If *they* win, the conquered peoples have nothing to expect but ruthless domination.

Is it not, therefore, wise—indeed, the only sane course—for us to cast aside mistrust and internal dissension and to combine against the common enemy in order to secure the fruits of victory—peace and liberty for us all?

**His Excellency's Message to the Meeting held  
on the 10th October 1942 to celebrate the  
Anniversary of the Inauguration of the Chinese  
Republic.**

It gives me great pleasure to send my greetings to those of you who are assembled here to celebrate this historic anniversary. Thirty-one years have elapsed since the Republic of China rose like a phoenix from the ashes of the Manchu Empire. These years have been for the Chinese people a period of constant struggle, first against internal forces of disorder, and latterly against the avarice of an unscrupulous invader. For thirty-one years the world has watched with growing admiration the gradual resurgence of a new spirit in the Chinese Nation; and it is this spirit which has inspired the Chinese people to resist, with magnificent courage and heroism, one of the most barbarous assaults in the history of mankind.

We know that this resistance has not been accomplished without great suffering. We know that parts of your country have been plundered and polluted by the enemy. Yet as long as the great heart of China beats firm and strong we also know that her wounds will heal and her people be ready for the day when the tide will turn.

When the Generalissimo and Madame Chiang-Kaishek visited us here earlier in the year; I had an opportunity of learning from this brave and indomitable leader of the Chinese people some of the

causes which have contributed to your great renaissance. I have since met many distinguished representatives of modern China, each of whom has convinced me further of the powerful forces which are gradually moulding the future of the nation. It is to-day understandable, therefore, that India is looking ever more closely to China for the establishment of a new cultural affinity.

In the meantime, we in Bengal, are not forgetting the dangers which lie between us and the millennium of victory and peace. We stand face to face with the very foe who is ravaging China. We are doing what we can to help the Chinese people, and we hope to do much more before long. In our turn we are particularly glad to see among us representatives of the armed forces of the Chinese Republic. Their presence is a source of encouragement to the people of this Province, on whose behalf I send to them and to the whole Chinese community here our greetings and our good wishes for the future.

**His Excellency's Address to Sardar Sahib Ahu Mingma Tshring on the occasion of investing him with the Badge of Sardar Sahib on the 26th October 1942.**

You have rendered loyal and distinguished service throughout your long career in the Police Force. You have received nearly 100 rewards, of which one was granted by the Collector of Excise, Calcutta, for the part you played in detecting the Gariahat Conspiracy Case. Successive Superintendents of Police have recorded their appreciation of the great assistance which you have rendered to them, and you did excellent work in connection with His Excellency the Governor's tour in Sikkim in 1940. You are one of the leaders of the Buddhist Community in the district, and in 1939 you were elected President of the well-known Monastery at Ghoom. In both your official and unofficial capacities you have rendered excellent service to the people of Darjeeling and have gained the confidence and respect of all sections of the community.

In recognition of your services, His Excellency the Viceroy has now been pleased to confer upon you the title of Sardar Sahib, and I have much pleasure in investing you with the Badge of that title.

**His Excellency's Addressess to persons invested  
at Government House, Calcutta, on the 17th  
November 1942.**

CAPTAIN LANCELOT SANDERSON, C.I.E., R.I.N.

On the outbreak of war you were in command of the Marine Survey of India—an appointment which you had held since 1935. Shortly after the war began, you were appointed to your present post of Naval Officer in charge of Calcutta, and in this capacity you have been responsible for all naval matters in the Port. Next to Bombay, Calcutta is the most important Port in India from the naval point of view, and many Local Naval Defence Vessels, Armed Merchant Cruisers and defensively equipped Merchant Vessels have been fitted out here. In supervising this work you have carried out your duties with great success, and the naval organisation of the Port and of the Local Flotilla has reached a high degree of efficiency. You have also been instrumental in achieving most satisfactory co-operation between the various Services and the many authorities who deal with marine matters in the Port; and you have at all times performed your many and difficult duties in a most meritorious manner.

• In the name of the King-Emperor and by His Majesty's Command, I invest you with the Insignia of the Most Eminent Order of the Indian Empire, of which His Majesty has been pleased to appoint you a Companion.



**MR. ALFRED ERNEST PORTER, C.I.E., I.C.S.**

Since you came out to India in 1922, you have had a distinguished career in this Province. You did excellent work as Superintendent of the Bengal Census in 1930-32, and your abilities as a District Officer were illustrated by the services which you rendered as Magistrate and Collector of Faridpur and Tippera Districts. Your work there was characterised by methodical touring and by a minute attention to detail, and the close study which you made of Union Board Administration and the operation of Debt Settlement Boards proved to be of the greatest value to Government. Since September 1940, you have held the post of Additional Secretary in the Home Department, and you have also performed the duties of Provincial Press Adviser. In both these capacities you have acted as the principal lieutenant of the Chief Secretary, and have shown an admirable mixture of firmness and tact.

In the name of the King-Emperor and by His Majesty's Command, I invest you with the Insignia of the Most Eminent Order of the Indian Empire, of which His Majesty has been pleased to appoint you a Companion.

**MR. CHARLES SEYMOUR MULLAN, C.I.E., I.C.S.**

After rendering military service during the last war, you joined the Assam Cadre of the Indian Civil Service in 1919, and had a distinguished record of work in that Province. You became Secretary to the Assam Government in the Education and Local

Self-Government Departments in 1938, and thereafter your services were placed at the disposal of the Central Government in the Income-Tax Department. As Commissioner of Income-Tax, you have held a „number’ of important charges, of which the most onerous is your present appointment as Commissioner of Income-Tax, Bengal. In this post you have shown abundant initiative and drive, and your undoubted administrative capacity has greatly contributed to the successful working of the Department. You recently officiated as Member of the Central Board of Revenue, and your work at all times has proved to be of the greatest value to Government.

In the name of the King-Emperor and by His Majesty’s Command, I invest you with the Insignia of the Most Eminent Order of the Indian Empire, of which His Majesty has been pleased to appoint you a Companion.

DR. WALTER ALLEN JENKINS, C.I.E., I.E.S.

You have served with distinction for more than 25 years in the Indian Educational Service, and your work as Professor of Physics, Inspector of Schools and Acting Vice-Chancellor of the University of Dacca was of a very high order. For a number of years past you have been on special duty in connection with Primary, Secondary and University education, and you have proved yourself to be an acknowledged authority, not only on general educational matters, but also in respect of University finance. You were mainly responsible for

organising in Calcutta and Darjeeling the New School for European Children who are unable to return to England on account of the war, and the extent of your personal contribution to the success of this enterprise cannot be over-emphasised. Your services to Government have been varied and meritorious, and they have contributed greatly towards the improvement of education in this Province.

In the name of the King-Emperor and by His Majesty's Command, I invest you with the Insignia of the Most Eminent Order of the Indian Empire, of which His Majesty has been pleased to appoint you a Companion.

DR. LIONEL EVERARD NAPIER, C.I.E.

After serving in the Royal Army Medical Corps during the last war, you were appointed in 1920 to a senior research post in the School of Tropical Medicine, and you soon became prominent there by reason of your work on Kala-azar. The Napier test for Kala-azar has made accurate diagnosis of this disease possible in dispensary practice, and the section on Kala-azar which you contributed to the British Encyclopædia of Medical Practice marked you as one of the first authorities in the world on this tropical disease. You have also made valuable contributions to the study of Malaria. After appointment as Professor of Tropical Medicine in 1935, you reorganised the Department as a teaching and research unit; and the scientific value of your work as Editor of the Indian Medical Gazette was

recognised in 1940 by your election to a Fellowship of the Royal College of Physicians, London. Since November 1941, you have acted as Director of the School of Tropical Medicine, and your work in organising the Blood Bank in Calcutta has proved to be of the greatest value.

In the name of the King-Emperor and by His Majesty's Command, I invest you with the Insignia of the Most Eminent Order of the Indian Empire, of which His Majesty has been pleased to appoint you a Companion.

MR. PRASANTA CHANDRA MAHALANOBIS, O.B.E.

You joined the Indian Educational Service in 1917, and since July 1920, you have been a Professor of the Presidency College, Calcutta. In addition to your work there, you have carried out statistical investigations in a variety of subjects of importance and have built up, first by your own efforts, and in recent years with assistance from Central Revenues, a fine centre of statistical training and research in Calcutta. Over a number of years you have given much useful advice on statistical problems to the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research and to institutions of the Central and Provincial Governments engaged on investigations relating to agriculture. Statisticians of international repute, such as Professor Fisher, have spoken and written of your capacity and work in terms of high praise, and your varied and original labours in a branch of Mathematics of which the

practical social value is daily increasing have been of the most meritorious character.

In the name of the King-Emperor and by His Majesty's Command, I present you with the Badge of an Officer of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire.

MR. FELIX ASH, O.B.E.

You joined the Army in August 1914 and obtained a commission in 1917. After active service in Mesopotamia and on the Indian frontier, you left the Army in 1923 with the rank of Captain to become Assistant Controller of Telegraph Stores. You were promoted as Controller in 1932, and in 1941 you were selected for the newly created post of Director of Telegraph Stores and Workshops. Throughout your service your work has been characterised by initiative, reliability and sound judgment, and your powers of organisation have enabled you to effect considerable economies and improvements in the Stores Branch. You have during the present war successfully dealt with difficult problems relating to the manufacture and supply of large quantities of stores, both for the Department and for the Defence Services, and your co-operation with the Director-General of Munitions Production has illustrated your unflagging energy in meeting many heavy demands.

In the name of the King-Emperor and by His Majesty's Command, I present you with the Badge of an Officer of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire.

**MR. MICHAEL ARTHUR FREDERICK HIRTZEL, O.B.E.,  
M.L.A.**

You have for some years represented the Bengal Chamber of Commerce in the Bengal Legislative Assembly and have been prominent there among the members of the European Group. On the formation of the Calcutta War Committee in June 1940, you became one of its Joint Secretaries, and in addition to your normal business and political work, you have shown yourself extremely active in connection with the operations both of this Committee and of the subsequently formed War Loans Sub-Committee. You have devoted your spare time ungrudgingly to voluntary service in the interests of War Funds, and your work in this respect has proved most valuable.

In the name of the King-Emperor and by His Majesty's Command, I present you with the Badge of an Officer of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire.

**MR. PROBHA NATH SINGH ROY, O.B.E.**

You are a member of a well-known landowning family of Burdwan District, and you became one of the Joint Secretaries of the Calcutta War Committee in June, 1940. In that capacity you have worked hard to develop the activities of the Committee, and as Joint Secretary of the War Loans Sub-Committee you have also done much to popularise the Savings Movement. Your hard work in this respect has set a fine example of disinterested service.

In the name of the King-Emperor and by His Majesty's Command, I present you with the Badge of an Officer of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire.

**MR. JNANENDRA MOHAN GHOSE, M.B.E.**

After being called to the Bar in England in 1914, you were appointed Assistant Registrar on the Original Side of the High Court in 1921, and during the succeeding years you held the offices of Assistant Master and Official Referee, Deputy Registrar, and Judge of the Small Cause Court, Calcutta. In 1932 you were appointed Registrar in Insolvency, and on 3 occasions since that date you have acted as Master and Official Referee. In these capacities you have done much to ensure the efficient functioning of your Department. You have played a leading part in the development of the Boy Scout Movement in Bengal, being for some time District Scout Master and Commissioner for Indian Scouts, Calcutta, and you were awarded the Medal of Merit by the late Lord Baden Powell. You have also taken part in A. R. P. activities, and for a time acted as Chief Air Raid Warden for the Tollygunge Sub-Area.

In the name of the King-Emperor and by His Majesty's Command, I hand you the Badge of a Member of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire.

**MR. KANDAPPA DURAI, M.B.E.**

Joining the East Indian Railway in 1920, you displayed marked ability as Track Supply Officer

during the years 1934-39 in systematising the supply of track materials for the whole railway. In the latter year you became Senior Superintendent, Way and Works, and have been responsible for the execution of the first stage of the construction of the Ondal-Khana Second Down Line. For more than 18 months you have also, in addition to your normal duties, been responsible for the railway A. R. P. organisation at Howrah, and as Chief Warden you have displayed exemplary energy and leadership. It is largely owing to your personal efforts that the A. R. P. work there has proved to be effective and efficient.

In the name of the King-Emperor and by His Majesty's Command, I hand you the Badge of a Member of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire.

MR. WILLIAM ADRIAN KIDD, M.B.E.

For many years you have been the leader of the Anglo-Indian community in Chittagong, and at the beginning of 1940 you were appointed District Commandant of Civic Guards there. In this capacity you worked unceasingly for their efficiency, and it is entirely due to your admirable control that the Civic Guards have carried out in an exemplary manner the various duties which have fallen to them. Their patrols have given a sense of security to the towns-people, and you have at all times done your best to foster a spirit of *esprit de corps* among them. As a nominated member of the Municipality, you have also done



much for the improvement of local municipal conditions, and you have from time to time made handsome contributions to War Funds.

In the name of the King-Emperor and by His Majesty's Command, I hand you the Badge of a Member of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire.

**MR. TOM PARKS, M.B.E.**

Joining the Gun and Shell Factory, Cossipore, as Assistant Foreman in 1919, you became Foreman in 1925, and were appointed substantively in 1940 as Assistant Works Manager. Your service in the Factory has throughout been characterised by ability, zeal and devotion to duty; and in connection with the modernisation and expansion of the Factory you have rendered outstanding service. Your keenness and efficiency have been largely responsible for the smoothness with which these schemes have been carried out.

In the name of the King-Emperor and by His Majesty's Command, I hand you the Badge of a Member of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire.

**RAI BINODE BIHARI SARKAR BAHADUR, M.B.E.**

You have a long record of excellent work in the Bengal Civil Service (Executive), and you were confirmed in a listed post in 1938. As District Magistrate, Birbhum, your work during the severe famine, which affected that district, was of the highest order, and your organisation of the famine

relief operations was characterised by energy and efficiency of a most laudable character. You also did much to improve local irrigation facilities in that area ; and in your subsequent work as Deputy Secretary in the Revenue Département, you have continued to set an admirable example to your fellow officers.

In the name of the King-Emperor and by His Majesty's Command, I hand you the Badge of a Member of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire.

MR. FRANK AUSTEN TUCKER, M.B.E.

You joined the Calcutta Police as a Sergeant in 1912 and the Calcutta Fire Brigade as a fireman in 1913. From the latter post you have risen to the command of the Brigade, which you have now held since October, 1940. You were awarded the King's Police Medal in 1927 for conspicuous work during the Calcutta riots of the previous year ; and you have succeeded in maintaining the Brigade in a high degree of efficiency during the tenure of your present office. Since the beginning of the war the strength of the Brigade has been greatly expanded and your duties have increased accordingly. You have also undertaken with cheerfulness and efficiency the heavy additional burdens placed upon you in relation to fire fighting schemes in A. R. P. areas, and your advice has at all times proved most valuable to Government.

In the name of the King-Emperor and by His Majesty's Command, I hand you the Badge of a

**Member of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire.**

**DR. AMULYA CHANDRA UKIL.**

Since 1926 you have made a special study of Tuberculosis and have improved the efficiency of the Chest Department of the Medical College Hospitals until it has become a centre for Post Graduate training in Tuberculosis for the whole of Eastern India. As a founder of the Tuberculosis Association of Bengal and as an active participant in the Annual Calcutta Health Week and Exhibition, you have done much to bring home to the public the essential facts relative to diseases of the chest, and you have rendered great public service in this respect. Your work as Senior Honorary Visiting Physician of the Chest Department of the Medical College Hospitals and your contributions to various scientific journals have marked you as an expert, and you have also done valuable work for the Bengal Branch of the Indian Red Cross Society.

In the name of the King-Emperor and by His Majesty's Command, I present you with the Kaisar-I-Hind Medal in Gold for public service in India.

**KHAN BAHADUR MOLLA ABDUL MAJID.**

After appointment to the Bengal Civil Service (Executive) in 1924, you did excellent work as Subdivisional Officer, Sadar, Faridpur, and in a similar capacity at Uluberia, Howrah. In 1936 you were appointed Assistant Secretary to Government in the Agriculture and Industries Department,

and during your 5 years tenure of that post you displayed conspicuous ability and tact. You received the title of Khan Sahib in 1939, and your work since then has continued to be outstanding. You were selected last year for appointment as Special Officer attached to the A. R. P. Controller, Bengal, and in this capacity you have performed your duties in a meritorious manner.

In recognition of your services, His Excellency the Viceroy has now been pleased to confer upon you the title of Khan Bahadur and I have much pleasure in investing you with the Badge of that title.

**KHAN BAHADUR MAHBUBUDDIN AHMED.**

You have had considerable revenue experience, and by your meritorious work you have achieved unusually rapid promotion. As Subdivisional Officer, Malda, you performed valuable service in connection with rural welfare work and fully maintained your reputation there. In February this year you were appointed Second Assistant Secretary in the Revenue, Forests and Excise Departments, and you now hold the office of First Assistant Secretary. You were awarded the title of Khan Sahib in 1938, and your subsequent work has continued to be of a high order.

\* In recognition of your services, His Excellency the Viceroy has now been pleased to confer upon you the title of Khan Bahadur and I have much pleasure in investing you with the Badge of that title.

**KHAN BAHADUR ABDUL HAMID CHOWDHURY, M.L.C.**

You have for a number of years been prominent in local affairs in Mymensingh District, where you have held the offices of Municipal Commissioner, Vice-Chairman of the Tangail Local Board and Vice-Chairman of the District Board. In these capacities, and as an Honorary Magistrate with first class powers you have rendered valuable service to the public. As Deputy President of the Bengal Legislative Council, you also occupy in the world of politics an important and responsible office, in which you have discharged your duties with efficiency and impartiality.

In recognition of your services, His Excellency the Viceroy has now been pleased to confer upon you the title of 'Khan Bahadur and I have much pleasure in investing you with the Badge of that title.

**RAI SRISH CHANDRA SARKAR BAHADUR.**

You were first appointed as a Medical Officer under Government in 1917, and thereafter went on military service. After the last war you filled posts in a number of large Calcutta hospitals, and you received the title of Rai Sahib in 1935. Three years later you were appointed Police Surgeon, Calcutta, and in this post you have shown great keenness in looking after the welfare of more than 6,000 officers and men of the Calcutta Police. The high state of efficiency which has been reached in the Calcutta Police Hospital is due to the excellence

of your work and to the keenness with which you have devoted yourself to your duties.

In recognition of your services, His Excellency the Viceroy has now been pleased to confer upon you the title of Rai Bahadur and I have much pleasure in investing you with the Badge of that title.

#### RAI JATINDRA NATH MITRA BAHADUR.

Joining the Bengal Civil Service in 1912, you have held a number of responsible posts with credit, and during the last war your name was brought to the notice of the Government of India for valuable work as Assistant Recruiting Officer. From 1921 to 1927, you performed the onerous duties of Deputy Chairman, Howrah Municipality, and you have also done good work in charge of several important subdivisions. After being Personal Assistant to the Commissioner, Burdwan Division, for 5 years, you became District Magistrate of Noakhali, and in that capacity acquitted yourself well during a time of communal dissensions and agricultural distress. In this post your work was characterised by firmness and impartiality, which won for you the respect of all sections of the public.

In recognition of your services, His Excellency the Viceroy has now been pleased to confer upon you the title of Rai Bahadur and I have much pleasure in investing you with the Badge of that title.

**RAI SUBODH CHANDRA SARKAR BAHADUR.**

You were appointed a Munsiff in 1919, and after many years service in various districts, you were placed on special duty in the High Court in 1932 in connection with the Revision of the Civil Rules and Orders. You became a Judge of the Calcutta Small Cause Court in 1934, and retired last year after a long record of meritorious service. Throughout your career your grasp of detail, your wide knowledge of the working of the Courts and your industry and ability were of the greatest value to Government and proved particularly useful to the High Court itself.

In recognition of your services, His Excellency the Viceroy has now been pleased to confer upon you the title of Rai Bahadur and I have much pleasure in investing you with the Badge of that title.

**RAI ASUTOSH GAIN BAHADUR.**

Although you reside and work in Calcutta, you have done much for the public of the Basirhat Sub-division of 24-Parganas District, where you were responsible for founding a Maternity Home and Child Welfare Centre. You created an endowment fund for this home at a cost of Rs. 25,000 and you have also contributed liberally towards the establishment of a High School and Sanskrit Tols and Pathshalas. Your charity and benevolence have carried on a family tradition of long standing, and your services to the public have been magnanimous and beneficent.

In recognition of your services, His Excellency the Viceroy has now been pleased to confer upon you the title of Rai Bahadur and I have much pleasure in investing you with the Badge of that title.

**RAI NARAYAN CHANDRA BANERJEE BAHADUR.**

You belong to a family which has supplied several brilliant officers to the Government Service, and you yourself, as Government Pleader at Nadia, have shown keen intelligence and exceptional ability in your work. You have always used your influence to further various laudable local activities, and have given considerable help in flood relief and towards the improvement of local breeds of cattle. As Chairman of the Nabadwip Municipality, you rendered valuable services to the people of your district, and you have at all times shown yourself anxious to assist schemes of social improvement.

In recognition of your services, His Excellency the Viceroy has now been pleased to confer upon you the title of Rai Bahadur and I have much pleasure in investing you with the Badge of that title.

**RAI SIB SHANKER CHATTERJI BAHADUR.**

Joining the Bengal-Nagpur Railway as a junior clerk in the Accounts Department in 1906, you have, by hard and meritorious work, risen to the rank of a senior scale officer. During your service of 36 years, your loyalty and devotion to duty have



been outstanding, and your good work as an A. R. P. Warden has been commended by the Civil Authorities of Howrah District. Your influence has always been employed in the support of authority and for the benefit of the community.

In recognition of your services, His Excellency the Viceroy has now been pleased to confer upon you the title of Rai Bahadur and I have much pleasure in investing you with the Badge of that title.

**RAI SAHIB GOKUL CHANDRA SEAL.**

You are a member of a Calcutta family which is well known throughout the Province for its liberalism and philanthropy; and you yourself have contributed large sums to various charitable objects and public health organisations. As a life member of the Tuberculosis Association of Bengal, St. John Ambulance Association and the Indian Red Cross Society, you have shown your interest in the work that is being done to ameliorate social conditions; and you have also played a prominent part in raising money for War Funds.

In recognition of your services, His Excellency the Viceroy has now been pleased to confer upon you the title of Rai Sahib and I have much pleasure in investing you with the Badge of that title.

**RAI SAHIB KALIPADA MUKHERJEE.**

Entering Government Service in 1916, you have risen to the rank of Assistant Income-Tax Officer and have since 1937 been in charge of the Companies District, which is a heavy and responsible

post. You have shown yourself to be a hard-working and conscientious officer over a period of more than 20 years, and your work for the Income-Tax Department has been of a most meritorious character.

In recognition of your services, His Excellency the Viceroy has now been pleased to confer upon you the title of Rai Sahib and I have much pleasure in investing you with the Badge of that title.

**RAO SAHIB MULIYIL KUNNATHIDATHIL RAMAN.**

You entered Government Service in 1913 and were appointed Probationary Superintendent of Post Offices 4 years later. You have held charge of divisions in various parts of India, and for the last 3 years you have been Assistant Postmaster-General, Central Circle, and have also officiated as Deputy Postmaster-General. In 1924 your good work in restoring postal communications at the time of the unprecedented floods in Malabar was specially commended ; and throughout your service you have shown yourself to be an officer of outstanding ability.

In recognition of your services, His Excellency the Viceroy has now been pleased to confer upon you the title of Rao Sahib and I have much pleasure in investing you with the Badge of that title.

**KHAN SAHIB MAULVI ANSER ALI.**

You joined the Upper Division of the Secretariat clerical service in 1922, and with the exception of 2 years in the Police Department, you have worked

continuously in the Appointment Department, of which you became Head Assistant in 1937. In 1941 you were appointed to act as Registrar, Home and Judicial Departments, and earlier this year you were specially selected for promotion as Assistant Secretary. Your work throughout your career, has been steady and able, and your experience in matters of postings and of "Recruitment and Service Conditions" has proved of the utmost value to Government.

In recognition of your services, His Excellency the Viceroy has now been pleased to confer upon you the title of Khan Sahib and I have much pleasure in investing you with the Badge of that title.

**KHAN SAHIB MAULVI MUHAMMAD MAHFUZ-UL HAQ.**

As Head of the Arabic and Persian Department in the Presidency College, Calcutta, and as an Honorary Lecturer in the Calcutta University, you have shown yourself to be a scholar of wide and profound knowledge, and the monographs which you have published on the history of Arabic and Persian Literature and Islamic Fine Arts have been of considerable importance. In the Presidency College itself you have always been an influence for good and a very present help in times of difficulty.

In recognition of your services, His Excellency the Viceroy has now been pleased to confer upon you the title of Khan Sahib and I have much pleasure in investing you with the Badge of that title.

**KHĀN SAHIB MAULVI ABDUL WAHED SYEDUDDIN  
KHAN.**

Entering Government service as an Upper Division Assistant in 1921, you rose to the rank of Head Assistant in 1931 as a result of your own merit and devotion to duty. You have shown yourself to be firm and tactful in the maintenance of discipline and efficiency in the department committed to your charge, and your knowledge of the details of administration and procedure in the Irrigation Branch of the Communications and Works Department has been of special value in solving numerous complicated problems.

In recognition of your services, His Excellency the Viceroy has now been pleased to confer upon you the title of Khān Sahib and I have much pleasure in investing you with the Badge of that title.

**KHAN SAHIB MAULVI SAIYID ABDUL MAJID.**

You joined the Bengal Civil Service (Executive) in 1923, and have served with distinction as an Assistant Settlement Officer and as a Khas Mahal Officer. In both these capacities your work was characterised by thoroughness and devotion to duty; and in your present post of Personal Assistant to the Director of Land Records and Surveys you have secured a firm grasp of the principles of your duties and are doing valuable work for Government.

In recognition of your services, His Excellency the Viceroy has now been pleased to confer upon

you the title of Khan Sahib and I have much pleasure in investing you with the Badge of that title.

KHAN SAHIB MAULVI MUHAMMAD KHALILUR  
RAHIM.

You have a long record of more than 27 years service in the Police Force, and your good work has been frequently rewarded. Both as a Sub-Inspector and as an Inspector you were commended for initiative and ability on a variety of occasions, and your work during the last Civil Disobedience Movement was particularly valuable. In the performance of your present duties in the Murshidabad District you have worthily lived up to the reputation which you previously gained for devotion to duty and energetic control of crime.

In recognition of your services, His Excellency the Viceroy has now been pleased to confer upon you the title of Khan Sahib and I have much pleasure in investing you with the Badge of that title.

KHAN SAHIB MAULVI MUHAMMAD ABDUL HUQ.

As President of your Union Board in Jessore District, you have succeeded in carrying out various works of public utility, and during the 10 years of your office you have conferred considerable benefits upon the public of your locality. On at least two occasions you were responsible for preventing the spread of communal rioting to your Union Board area, and you also rendered excellent service to the

authorities in connection with the last census operations and as a member of the Subdivisional War Committee.

In recognition of your services, His Excellency the Viceroy has now been pleased to confer upon you the title of Khan Sahib and I have much pleasure in investing you with the Badge of that title.

RAI SAHIB DURGA DAS MITTER.

Entering the service of the Calcutta High Court in 1917, you have risen to the appointment of Bench Clerk and have officiated on four occasions as Assistant Registrar. Your work has always been efficient and thorough, and you rendered valuable assistance in the compilation of the Judicial Department's Manual and the revision of the Appellate Side Rules. In these various activities your work has proved of great value to Government.

In recognition of your services, His Excellency the Viceroy has now been pleased to confer upon you the title of Rai Sahib and I have much pleasure in investing you with the Badge of that title.

RAI SAHIB PROMODE KUMAR BHATTACHARJI.

You have had a long record of more than 22 years meritorious service and have held the post of Subdivisional Officer, Howrah (Sadar) for more than 3 years. In this capacity you have done commendable work for the war effort, and the success of the District War Committee in raising contributions for the East India War Fund has been largely due to

your energy. You have also been of great assistance to the District Magistrate in organising Civil Defence and A. R. P. services, and your thoroughness and drive in the performance of your duties have proved to be outstanding.

In recognition of your services, His Excellency the Viceroy has now been pleased to confer upon you the title of Rai Sahib and I have much pleasure in investing you with the Badge of that title.

**RAI SAHIB SHASHADHAR MAZUMDAR.**

Joining the Bengal Police as a Sub-Inspector in 1918, you were transferred to the Intelligence Branch in 1924, and quickly proved your possession of a special aptitude for intelligence work. You were confirmed as an Inspector in 1932, and received the King's Police Medal in the following year. You are now officiating as a Deputy Superintendent of Police, and you have been responsible for the collection of a large mass of most useful information regarding the plans of revolutionary organisations. Your work has at all times been marked by particular ability.

In recognition of your services, His Excellency the Viceroy has now been pleased to confer upon you the title of Rai Sahib and I have much pleasure in investing you with the Badge of that title.

**RAI SAHIB SUBHAS CHANDRA BISWAS.**

As Chairman of the Meherpur Municipality you have played a prominent part in the public life of

the Nadia District, and in your capacity as Secretary of the Central Co-operative Bank, you have done much to assist in the application of co-operative principles along the best lines. You have also given great assistance to the authorities as Secretary of the Subdivisional War Committee, and have helped in the organisation of Civic Guards.

In recognition of your services, His Excellency the Viceroy has now been pleased to confer upon you the title of Rai Sahib and I have much pleasure in investing you with the Badge of that title.

RAI SAHIB JATINDRA NATH CHAUDHURI.

You joined the East Indian Railway in 1919, and have since 1939 held the highest post in your grade. Your work in connection with reinforced concrete bridges and masonry piers has been most valuable, and you were also of great help in the preparation of the East Indian Railway Permanent Way Blue Book of 1936. In addition to your normal duties, you have taken an interest in the welfare of your own locality, and as Chairman of the Debt Settlement Board and a member of the Union Board and District Youth Welfare Committee, you have assisted the local people to help themselves in improving social conditions.

In recognition of your services, His Excellency the Viceroy has now been pleased to confer upon you the title of Rai Sahib and I have much pleasure in investing you with the Badge of that title.



**RAI SAHIB SHAKTI KANTA CHAKRAVARTY.**

You joined the Eastern Bengal Railway in 1913 as an Apprentice, and by dint of hard and meritorious work, you have now risen to the position of Assistant Foreman in the Machine Shop at Kanchrapara. Your work there has been most satisfactory, and in addition to your regular duties, you have associated yourself with the public life of the station by serving as a Municipal Commissioner and by superintending for 15 years the Indian Apprentices' Hostel. In these various capacities you have performed public service of a valuable character.

In recognition of your services, His Excellency the Viceroy has now been pleased to confer upon you the title of Rai Sahib and I have much pleasure in investing you with the Badge of that title.

**SISTER DORIS MILLER TIMMINS.**

You were a Nursing Sister at the Baptist Mission Hospital, Chandraghona, Chittagong Hill Tracts since 1924, and during this period you assisted in the progressive development of the hospital, which now includes a women's ward and a children's ward and makes provision for the training of Indian school girls and male nurses. In your nursing work and subsequently as Matron of the hospital, you displayed exceptional zeal, energy and capability, and by your devoted service over a long period of years in an unhealthy locality, you have not merely added materially to the high reputation of this hospital, but have also rendered most

valuable service to the inhabitants of the Chittagong Hill Tracts.

On behalf of His Excellency the Viceroy, I present you with the Kaisar-I-Hind Medal in Silver for public service in India.

MRS. BERTHA ST. JOHN MOIR.

You have for a number of years been keenly interested in social work in Calcutta, and the committees of the Women's Friendly Society and the Calcutta Hospital Nurses Institution have greatly benefited from your connection with them. Shortly before the outbreak of the present war, you began to organise women for A. R. P. purposes, and towards the end of 1940, you became Chief Organiser of the Women's A. R. P. Section. In this capacity you have arranged a large number of meetings and lectures for women of all castes and creeds, and the Women's A. R. P. Section has trained more than 1,000 women in fire-fighting, A. R. P. methods and Home Nursing. The benefit which this training has conferred upon the community in general is of the very greatest value, and your services to the public of Calcutta have in this respect been outstanding.

On behalf of His Excellency the Viceroy, I present you with the Kaisar-I-Hind Medal in Silver for public service in India.

RAI SAHIB RAMAPATI BASU.

Your activities at Suri, Birbhum, have not been restricted to your practice at the Bar, but have

extended also to the co-operative movement, the establishment and organisation of which throughout the district has been your particular care. For your excellent work as Honorary Secretary of the Birbhum Relief Committee during the famine of 1936, you were awarded the title of Rai Sahib, and during the past year you have once again done admirable work in connection with famine relief. Your activities have been marked by energy and tact of a high order, and your assistance to the District Officers has proved invaluable, not merely in regard to the distribution of relief, but also in the maintenance of official records and accounts.

On behalf of His Excellency the Viceroy, I present you with the Kaisar-I-Hind Medal in Silver for public service in India.

BABU RADHA NATH CHANDRA.

Your experience as an N. C. O. of the 49th Bengali Regiment has proved of assistance to you as a Civic Guard Commandant in Calcutta. You have in this capacity played a prominent and efficient part in the organisation of Civic Guards and have in person supervised their training and drill, with the result that your District Team has been the most efficient in the whole of the North District. Your services in this respect have been entirely voluntary and most valuable.

On behalf of His Excellency the Viceroy, I present you with the Kaisar-I-Hind Medal in Bronze for public service in India.

**MR. ISKANDER SAEED KHAN GHUZNAVI.**

You have devoted a great deal of your time to the Civic Guard organisation in Ballygunge, Calcutta, and your work has not merely been of a secretarial, but also of a practical nature. The assistance which you have given has contributed largely to the successful organisation of Civic Guards in the South District; and the manner in which you assisted in dealing with a fire at a celluloid factory in that area gave evidence of your practical abilities. You have set an excellent example to the public in devoting so much of your time to matters so intimately connected with the public welfare.

On behalf of His Excellency the Viceroy, I present you with the Kaisar-I-Hind Medal in Bronze for public service in India.

**MR. AMAL SHAH.**

As the grandson of the founder and son of the Principal of the Calcutta Blind School, you have carried on the tradition of your father and grandfather by devoting yourself to the training of blind boys in the field of Scouting. In this difficult and arduous work you have shown a high degree of patience and ability, and your study of problems affecting the blind has proved of the greatest benefit to the welfare of blind boys in this Province.

On behalf of His Excellency the Viceroy, I present you with the Kaisar-I-Hind Medal in Bronze for public service in India.

**His Excellency's Speech broadcast from the Calcutta  
Station of the All-India Radio on the 17th  
November 1942.**

A few days ago I was able to take a bird's-eye view of the area devastated by the cyclone. Flying over the affected country, I could see villages which could only be reached with great difficulty by land or water. I also toured some of this area by road.

From the air I saw villages without any sign of life, completely isolated by the floods, and areas of many square miles destitute of cattle and crops. On land, I found almost every tree uprooted, huts uninhabitable, *pucca* houses unroofed, and even a solid 12-foot brick wall blown flat by the gale.

You will understand from this that the problem to be faced is immense. Countless houses have been destroyed. A tidal wave has washed away the "bunds" as in 1864 and has not only destroyed the crops, but has probably affected the fertility of the soil, throughout a strip along the sea coast several miles in width. Livestock have perished wholesale. It follows that many thousands of persons have been deprived of their homes, possessions and means of livelihood.

Take the average cultivator whose livelihood is derived from his tenant's right to cultivate the soil, for which he must pay rent. He may have a good landlord who will see him through bad times: but that is by no means universal. He can possibly rebuild his ruined house if he can obtain and pay

for materials. He may gradually replace his lost possessions and clothing, if he has the money. But in many cases he has been deprived of his fertile land, the source of everything to him; for from his land only can he earn money for building materials and clothing, and from his land only can he win food for himself and his family.

It is people such as these who stand in need of our help. Government are ready to take up the task. Engineers have surveyed the damage and repairs will be made. Estimates of losses are being prepared, and compensation will be assessed. Seed will have to be provided: cattle to be obtained. But these are long-range methods of relief. At the moment there are thousands of families homeless, destitute, starving and without clothing. To keep them we want funds, supplies of food and clothing and many willing workers. Now is the time for every man and woman of good-will, irrespective of race, politics or religion, to join Government in this good work; and they may rest assured that Government will assist and co-ordinate their charitable efforts in every way.

I am speaking solely in the cause of relief to the sufferers; and, if I touch on a subject about which some of my listeners may at present unhappily be divided, it is still in that cause that I speak. I refer to the deplorable disorders which persist in parts of our Province and in particular in the very areas where the cyclone has wrought most havoc. At the outset I must make it clear that Government

consider it their duty, are able, and intend; to suppress all violence and disorder of this kind. But does not the call of humanity appeal to this crisis to persons of *all* ways of thinking? Is it not tragic that those engaged in this campaign of violence are making the work of relief difficult and even impossible, that those now engaged in suppressing the campaign cannot divert their energies, as they would wish, to the task of helping the distressed? I and my Ministers hope that those who are now engaged in fighting the forces of law and order will join with us in the contemplation of the highest ideal in sight—aid to our own people in their extremity—and that all thoughts and acts of violence will be laid aside so that all persons, whatever their opinions, may be able to join together harmoniously in the great work of charity.

I end on this note of co-operation in service to the distressed. To-morrow will be held the first meeting of the Committee which I hope to form for pooling all resources to that end. Already a most generous example has been set by those who have sent in donations, both in money and in kind. On behalf of the many sufferers who will benefit, I express my thanks.

**His Excellency's Speech at the Annual Convocation  
of the Dacca University held on the 2nd  
December 1942.**

MR. VICE-CHANCELLOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

For the second year in succession this Convocation ceremony has perforce been postponed from its normal date, and it must surely be the hope of all of us that the quieter circumstances in which we meet to-day may be a prelude to the permanent elimination of those disorders which have sullied the good name of Dacca. I thank you, Mr. Vice-Chancellor, for the welcome which you have extended to me, and I assure you that your references to the development and difficulties of the University during the past year evoke my warm interest and sincere sympathy. You yourself have recently assumed a most responsible office, and I wish you every success in the performance of your duties. You may rely upon my support in all that contributes towards the best interests of this famous seat of learning.

2. I am sure that we should all like to go ahead rapidly with the constitution of a Medical College and a new Muslim Hall. Government have accepted in principle a liability to contribute towards the construction of the Hall, and I understand that the report of an expert committee regarding the establishment of a Medical College is now under the consideration of the Hon'ble



Minister, who desires to convene as soon as practicable a conference for the purpose of settling the details of the scheme. I hope that it may be possible to accord administrative sanction to these proposals before very long, but it will be for my financial advisers to say whether provincial revenues, which are now burdened with heavy expenditure on war-time measures, will be able in the near future to bear the additional weight of these new projects. I should not like to raise false hopes in this respect, for our immediate aim must be the defeat of the Axis Powers, and towards that end we must strain all our energies and resources.

3. The possible postponement of these projects may not, however, prove to be altogether a disadvantage, for it should enable us to concentrate upon the improvement of standards rather than upon the expansion of facilities. I am inclined to think that such an improvement is required in at least one direction, for I am considerably concerned at the way in which this Province is dropping back in certain departments of the intellectual arena. The examination results for entrance into the All-India Services, which are no bad guide, show that Bengal, which once led the whole field, too often now-a-days finishes the race in the ruck. Whatever form the future Government of this country may take, we cannot regard this state of affairs with equanimity; and I venture to suggest that one reason for it is to be found in an excessive preoccupation with politics and in a fatal readiness to close books and down tools on the most inadequate

provocation. I have no intention of dilating upon controversial issues, and my object is merely to commend to all of you the need for restoring the prestige of Bengal in the sphere of the Public Services. India needs the help of its best men and women. It looks to the Universities to produce them, and it is for that reason that I most heartily endorse the emphasis which you, Mr. Vice-Chancellor, have laid upon the desirability of quality rather than quantity as the proper objective of University education.

4. Most of you here to-day will have to make your own way in the world, some almost immediately, others in years to come. It will not be an easy way. Seldom in history have times been more difficult and dangerous than at present. Seldom, on the other hand, has life offered more varied opportunities to those with stout hearts and determined courage. It is not, however, towards the fulfilment of selfish ambitions that I would urge you. My encouragement is directed rather towards the realisation of those ideals of service, to Bengal, to India, to mankind itself, which alone can support in practice the theory of democracy. At present there is need of you, to help in winning this war. After victory has been achieved the need will be greater, for the reconstruction of the world. It would be a profound mistake to imagine that a University degree fits a man solely for certain limited types of employment. It should enable him, in any capacity, to play his part more effectively by reason of the training which it symbolises.

A University education should not be regarded simply as a means to an end. It is an end in itself, for it strives after the formation of character and the inculcation of intellectual standards, and it seeks to make a man think for himself. I am convinced that the great commotions of the present and the inevitable changes of the near future provide, and will provide, tremendous occasions for service of all kinds. Do not be backward in taking advantage of them, and do not be hesitant in striking out new paths. Adventures are to the adventurous, and youth without adventure loses half its savour. Remember the words of Disraeli: "It is a great thing to be young: to be young *and* to be wise is to be irresistible."; and while you strive in honourable enterprise, have wisdom enough to put service before self.

5. Since I last spoke to you in this Hall the war has drawn much closer to us, and the enemy now stands upon our borders and directly threatens all that we hold dear. This is, therefore, not the time at which to dissipate our energies in barren controversies or sectarian disputes. It is essential that in moments of danger we should stand together and stand by each other, and I would urge upon the young men and women of this University an appreciation of the great responsibilities which rest upon them. The youth of Britain and America, of China and Russia, have set a splendid example of determined and disciplined opposition to the barbarians. They have subordinated their own interests to the higher interests of their

countries, and they are resolute to destroy that monstrous tyranny with which the totalitarian nations seek to subjugate other races and to fasten fetters upon the world. It is by its ability to effect this subordination of personal interests to the general good that democracy will stand or fall, and if we cannot achieve that objective quickly, our eventual victory may be sadly delayed. Considerable successes have recently fallen to the arms of the United Nations in Russia, in North Africa, in New Guinea and in the Solomon Islands. We trust that these mark not simply the end of the beginning, but also the beginning of the end. Yet we should be failing in our most obvious duty if we now relaxed our watchfulness or our preparations. There are Japanese troops in Burma, and our enemies are active beyond the hills. To meet them and defeat them, India needs her youth, not merely in the firing line, but also in the base camps, on the lines of communications, in the hospitals, in the factories, on the sea and in the air. Above all she needs their goodwill and their disinterested service in whatever walks of life they may choose for themselves.

6. India has a great past, and the story of Bengal's past is now being written in this University. John Ruskin once said: "We are rich in an inheritance of honour bequeathed to us through a thousand years of noble history, which it should be our daily thirst to increase with splendid avarice." We are none of us infallible, not even the youngest of us; but in commending Ruskin's saying to you,

I have no hesitation in stressing its essential truth. It is because the past contains so many examples of magnificent and selfless service, that I urge you most strongly to ensure that the future is worthy of it. It is not only the past, however, which presents such examples. They are to be found in the present also, and one of the most outstanding is with us here this morning. You are all anxious to hear Sir Mirza Ismail, and I shall not, therefore, stand between you and him any longer. He has a fine record of eminent public service, and he is a prototype of those who have devoted their lives to the welfare of India. His extensive experience has most admirably fitted him to advise you, and I am certain that you will draw inspiration from what he has to say.

**His Excellency's Addresses to recipients of Medals  
at the Calcutta Police Parade held on the 7th  
December 1942.**

SERGEANT MICHAEL BULLOCK.

On the 22nd May 1942, you and other officers of the Calcutta Police were sent to Ballygunge to deal with a British Soldier who had run amok and severely injured 4 men. He was then in a Guard Room with rifles and ammunition at his disposal; and it was decided to use tear smoke for the purpose of overpowering him. You made two attempts to fire tear smoke shells into the loophole through which the soldier was shooting, and in doing so exposed yourself to his aim. The second attempt was successful and compelled him to leave his cover, whereupon he was shot at and wounded. As it was still uncertain whether he was out of action, you subsequently entered the house and threw another smoke shell into the Guard Room. Your action in twice approaching a building containing a well-armed madman who had already wounded 4 individuals and was under excellent cover was an act of great gallantry, and your conduct throughout the entire operation was of a most meritorious character.

His Majesty has been pleased to recognise your bravery by the grant of the King's Police and Fire Services Medal for Gallantry, with which I have now much pleasure in decorating you.

## INSPECTOR GEORGE THOROGOOD.

During the recent disturbances in Calcutta you displayed commendable courage and initiative on a number of occasions. On the 14th August 1942, you 3 times dispersed menacing and hostile crowds and received some injuries in doing so. On the following day you dispersed another crowd which attacked you and your men while you were attempting to extinguish a fire in a tramcar; and on the 29th August you personally extinguished a fire in another tramcar, sustaining burns on both hands. On the 7th September you successfully put out a fire in a Sub-Post Office before the arrival of the Fire Brigade. Throughout these incidents you showed great courage, initiative and leadership in circumstances of real danger. ' .

In recognition of the bravery which you displayed on that occasion, I have much pleasure in decorating you with the Indian Police Medal for Gallantry which has been awarded to you.

STATION OFFICER ALBERT JOSEPH LASHMAR,  
CALCUTTA FIRE BRIGADE.

On the 20th July 1942, a fire broke out in a building in Radhabazar Street, Calcutta, as the result of a number of celluloid films igniting. ' You were one of the party sent from the Central Avenue Fire Station to deal with the conflagration, and on arrival you found that two men were lying unconscious in a passage-way which was on fire. Disregarding the flames, smoke and falling debris, you went to their rescue and brought them out one

by one. You were fully aware of the possibility that more films might ignite, and that the petrol tank of a car in the building might burst and throw burning petrol over you. Your conduct in twice exposing yourself to danger in this manner was an act of very considerable gallantry, and your promptness and courage resulted in the saving of two lives.

In recognition of the bravery which you displayed on that occasion, I have much pleasure in decorating you with the Indian Police Medal for Gallantry which has been awarded to you.

HEAD CONSTABLE RAM NAGINA SINGH.

On the 19th December 1940, in the course of night rounds you noticed an old offender loitering near a shop in a suspicious manner. On being challenged, he ran away, and when you tried to arrest him, he stabbed you with a dagger. You continued the pursuit, and with the help of two constables, succeeded in capturing him with the dagger still in his hand. You showed great courage in grappling with a dangerously armed criminal and in arresting him after being seriously injured yourself.

In recognition of the bravery which you displayed on that occasion, I have much pleasure in decorating you with the Indian Police Medal for Gallantry which has been awarded to you.



**His Excellency's Address to Mr. Robert Austen Dutch, O.B.E., I.C.S., on the occasion of presenting him with the Badge of an Officer of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire on the 10th December 1942.**

**MR. ROBERT AUSTEN DUTCH, O.B.E., I.C.S.**

Coming out to Bengal in the Indian Civil Service at the end of 1929, and after experience of both executive and judicial work in a number of districts, you were appointed in December 1939, to be Superintendent of Census Operations in this Province. Your work in this post was of an outstanding character, and despite the fact that the Bengal Census was carried on under the most difficult conditions, you brought the operations to a successful conclusion and showed admirable patience and judgment in supervising them. You also displayed exceptional administrative ability and a careful regard to provincial conditions in giving effect to the changes introduced in the method of the Census; and your control of the distribution throughout India of 400 million Census Slips printed in the Government of India Press at Calcutta was of the most efficient character.

In the name of the King-Emperor and by His Majesty's Command, I present you with the Badge of an Officer of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire.

**His Excellency's Addresses to gentlemen Invested at Dinajpur, Rangpur and Bogra during February 1943.**

**KHAN SAHIB MAULVI SHAMSUL ABEDIN.**

You joined the Bengal Junior Civil Service in 1920, and your work in various districts and in a variety of capacities has always been marked by sound judgment and ability. The experience of revenue work which you have gained during the course of your career has proved of great value, both to yourself and to Government, in relation to your present work as Assistant Settlement Officer, Dinajpur. You have discharged with credit the important duties of this office, and have throughout your service shown yourself to be a tactful, hard-working and thoroughly dependable officer.

In recognition of your services His Excellency the Viceroy has now been pleased to confer upon you the title of Khan Sahib, and I have much pleasure in investing you with the Badge of that title.

**RAI SAHIB KSHIROD BIHARI MALLIK.**

Entering the Bengal Junior Civil Service in 1921, you did excellent work in the realisation of Takavi loans in the district of Khulna, and later displayed great activity in dealing with flood relief in the Rajshahi and Burdwan districts. You were promoted to the Bengal Civil Service in 1934, and as Subdivisional Officer, Naogaon, and now as

Subdivisional Officer, Sadar, Dinajpur, you have continued your record of good service. Your touring has been extensive and has enabled you to obtain a first hand knowledge of the areas placed in your charge, and you have also shown particular energy in encouraging contributions to War Funds of various kinds.

In recognition of your services His Excellency the Viceroy has now been pleased to confer upon you the title of Rai Sahib, and I have much pleasure in investing you with the Badge of that title.

**RAI SAHIB PROBODH KUMAR ROY.**

You are a practising pleader of Maldah district and a Director of the Bengal Provincial Co-operative Bank, and are closely connected with local Sports Associations. You have played a prominent part as a member of the District War Committee in the collection of War Funds, and have shown your public spirit by acting as District Commandant of Civic Guards and by devoting much of your time to this organisation. Your services to the public have been varied and beneficial in a variety of ways.

In recognition of your services His Excellency the Viceroy has now been pleased to confer upon you the title of Rai Sahib, and I have much pleasure in investing you with the Badge of that title.

**RAI SAHIB PRAFULLA KUMAR BISWAS.**

You have been doing useful work as an Honorary Magistrate at Gaibandha since 1936, and you have also played a prominent part as a member of the Subdivisional War Committee in addressing meetings and stimulating contributions to War Funds. In the field of charity, you have assisted various public institutions of the district with personal donations, and your construction of a Maternity Home at Gaibandha has illustrated your concern for the welfare of your own locality.

In recognition of your services His Excellency the Viceroy has now been pleased to confer upon you the title of Rai Sahib, and I have much pleasure in investing you with the Badge of that title.

**RAI SAHIB KEDAR NATH BHATTACHERJEE.**

You have served as an Honorary Magistrate since 1913, and have exercised first class powers since 1939. The quality of your judicial work has always been of a high order, and your impartiality and diligence have won for you the respect of all sections of the community. You are also connected with various local institutions, and as Secretary of the Rangpur Maternity and Child Welfare Clinic, you have displayed commendable energy and perseverance in an attempt to organise the clinic on a sound financial basis.

In recognition of your services His Excellency the Viceroy has now been pleased to confer upon

you the title of Rai Sahib, and I have much pleasure in investing you with the Badge of that title.

**KHAN SAHIB MAULVI ABED ALI.**

In addition to your work as Muhammadan Marriage Registrar at Shibganj, you have found time to render valuable public service as Chairman of the Behar Debt Settlement Board. As a member of the District War Committee, you have also taken an active interest in war propaganda, and in all your public activities you have set an example of co-operation with the authorities and concern for the well-being of your fellows.

In recognition of your services His Excellency the Viceroy has now been pleased to confer upon you the title of Khan Sahib, and I have much pleasure in investing you with the Badge of that title.

**His Excellency's Speech at the 90th District  
Conference of Rotary Clubs in Burma and  
Eastern India held on the 8th February 1943.**

MR. PRESIDENT, FELLOW ROTARIANS, LADIES AND  
GENTLEMEN—

It cannot be often that the Governor of a Province in India enjoys the pleasure, during his normal 5 years of office, of opening 2 District Conferences of Rotary Clubs, and I appreciate the privilege which I have in this matter.

The first Rotary Club in India was started in Calcutta with a very wide jurisdiction, which included Burma and Ceylon. Since then the Rotary movement has spread further, and bifurcations of jurisdiction have been inevitable. Three years ago I had the honour of opening, and the pleasure of entertaining those who attended, the first Conference of the 88th District; and this morning I have the additional pleasure of opening the first Conference of the 90th District and of looking forward to entertaining this afternoon the members and delegates who are present here to-day. The newly formed 90th District of Rotary International, which has been carved out of the old 88th District, comprises the Provinces of Bengal, Assam, Bihar, Orissa and part of the Central Provinces and Berar, and it also includes Burma. Bengal as the progenitor of Rotary in India can thus look with pride upon the rapid development of her progeny in the Rotarian sense of the word.

The four main avenues of service in Rotary are club, vocational, community and international service. These must be surely synonymous with the ideals of all statesmen who look forward to a world of free nations through the elimination of those authoritarian Powers which seek to conquer for purposes of ego-centric nationalism and exploitation. Of these avenues, that of community service in its widest sense inevitably has the strongest appeal, for it concerns those aspects of civic welfare which are of such vital importance. The Clubs of this District have realised that importance, and it is encouraging to find that while the Jamshedpur Club has been helping to solve the problem of leprosy by organising clinics and subsidising beds in the Purulia Leper Hospital, the Club at Asansol has completed a headquarters buildings for Boy Scouts and Girl Guides, which has now been converted into a Y. M. C. A. hut for the Services.

In Calcutta the Rotary Club has donated a fully equipped field ambulance for service in the Middle East, and has taken a leading part in providing amenities for the troops who are defending Eastern India. It has also made valuable contributions to War Funds, and has actively assisted in organising the Blood Bank for the succour of the wounded and injured. The Calcutta Club is also responsible for drawing attention to the difficult beggar problem in this city and pressing for its solution. It is disappointing that plans for providing a solution on the lines suggested by the Rotary Club have not yet been brought to

fruition, and perhaps unfortunate also that certain criticisms have been made under a misapprehension of the difficulties which have interrupted the rapid development of the project. I am informed, however, that the necessary materials will shortly be available for its completion, and that a temporary alternative is being devised meanwhile.

The Clubs in this District have thus been active in maintaining and developing the ideals of Rotary ; and at this time our thoughts and sympathies extend to the Rotarians in the Far East and particularly to those in Burma, which forms part of this District. Rotary is not confined to purely parochial interests. Each one of us must take a share in helping his neighbours, but there also devolves upon each one of us the wider obligation falling upon all who support a world movement and that is to look far afield in terms of space and of time. To-day many countries are dominated by nations whose ideals are completely opposed to our Rotarian ideal of the brotherhood of man. We want each Unit to do its utmost to serve, not only local, but also international interests. Our ideals stand in sharp contrast to those selfish objectives of the Axis Nations which have been only too clearly demonstrated during the past few years. Hitler's methods in attempting to win world domination for his so-called Aryan race ; Mussolini's attack upon a defeated and discouraged France, in hopes of extending an empire ; Japan's employment of a period of negotiation to prepare for an unprovoked assault on the United States ;



are illustrative of the mentality of these nations and of the terms on which they wish to hold the world to ransom.

Rotarians can never accept these terms, for our determination is to propagate concepts of service to the individual, to the local Unit, and to society as a whole. We seek indeed a world domination, but our aim is very different from that of the Dictators. Our object is the domination of an ideal, which we hope will, like a phoenix, rise from the smoke of present hatreds. Our ideal is mutual understanding and respect, and a realisation that every man, however humble, can and should serve his fellows. Let us Rotarians of the 90th District think of our responsibilities which extend beyond the present time and the present place ; and while realising our immediate and local duties, let us seek to join hands with Rotarians the world over in the building of a better basis for society and civilization. Any lesser ultimate aim, any more circumscribed or limited form of idealism should be anathema to us. The aim of Rotary is the bridging of economic, social and international gulfs, the creation of a better understanding and the foundation of a stable peace after this war. I hope that in this spirit you will conduct your deliberations and that in this spirit we shall meet again this afternoon. I wish you a profitable and pleasant conference in Calcutta, and I now invite Rotarian Dr. A. C. Ukil to take the chair.

**His Excellency's Short Addresses at the Informal  
Investiture at Government House, Calcutta,  
on the 11th March 1943. .**

MR. THOMAS BLANDFORD JAMESON, C.I.E., M.C., I.C.S.

After serving in the Army and winning the Military Cross during the last war, you joined the Indian Civil Service in 1921. You worked as a District and Sessions Judge from 1926 until 1940, and in the latter year your offer to serve in the Executive Branch was accepted and you were appointed District Magistrate and Collector of Chittagong. You are now the Commissioner of the Chittagong Division, and since Burma was overrun by the Japanese, your work in both capacities has been particularly meritorious. You have shown enthusiasm and ability in dealing with the many difficult problems arising out of refugee evacuation and relief, the administration of the denial policy, A. R. P. Organisation and Japanese air raids. The example which you have set to your subordinates has been admirable at all times, and the soundness of your advice has been greatly appreciated by Government.

\* In the name of the King-Emperor and by His Majesty's Command, I invest you with the Insignia of the Most Eminent Order of the Indian Empire, of which His Majesty has been pleased to appoint you a Companion.

MR. MALCOLM OGILVIE CARTER, C.I.E., M.C., I.C.S.

After winning the Military Cross during the last war, you entered the Indian Civil Service in 1921 and rapidly made a name for yourself as a Revenue and Settlement expert. Your work in connection with the Settlement of Malda and Rangpur districts, as Secretary to the Board of Revenue, as Magistrate and Collector of the important districts of Midnapore and the 24-Parganas, and as Director of Land Records & Surveys was of the greatest value to Government, which thereafter selected you for the post of Secretary to the Land Revenue Commission appointed to investigate the problems of the Permanent Settlement. In this capacity you performed your duties with marked success and were responsible for the valuable report in which the Commission embodied its conclusions. For two years from August, 1940, you held with distinction the important appointment of Secretary to the Governor, and you are now on special duty as Civil Liaison Officer for Bengal at the headquarters of the Eastern Army. Throughout your service your work has been marked by great ability, particularly in matters relating to the land tenure system and revenue administration of the Province.

In the name of the King-Emperor and by His Majesty's Command, I invest you with the Insignia of the Most Eminent Order of the Indian Empire, of which His Majesty has been pleased to appoint you a Companion.

**MR. RICHARD PERCYVALE WARD, C.I.E., M.C., D.F.C.,  
I.C.S.**

After distinguished service in the Army and Royal Air Force during the last war, you joined the Indian Civil Service in 1921, and since 1935 you have held district and Secretariat appointments in the Province of Orissa. Both as a District Magistrate and as Revenue Secretary to Government, you showed yourself to be a conscientious, reliable and hardworking officer. Since March, 1942, you have been attached to Eastern Army Headquarters as Civil Liaison Officer for Orissa, and your work there has been of special value to Government and has been equally appreciated by the Military authorities.

In the name of the King-Emperor and by His Majesty's Command, I invest you with the Insignia of the Most Eminent Order of the Indian Empire, of which His Majesty has been pleased to appoint you a Companion.

**MR. KRISHNA PRASADA, C.I.E., I.C.S.**

Entering the Indian Civil Service in 1921, you proved yourself to be an able District Officer and showed special enthusiasm for village uplift. You joined the Posts & Telegraphs Department in 1934, and as Postmaster-General of five Circles displayed industry, zeal and executive ability of a high order. You led a delegation from India at the Telecommunications Conference at Cairo in 1937, and after the outbreak of the war you were particularly successful in the Punjab in obtaining

volunteers for field service and in encouraging donations to the Department's War Purposes Fund. You have maintained your good record in your present appointment as Postmaster-General, Bengal & Assam Circle.

In the name of the King-Emperor and by His Majesty's Command, I invest you with the Insignia of the Most Eminent Order of the Indian Empire, of which His Majesty has been pleased to appoint you a Companion.

MR. ROBERT ANDERSON MACGREGOR, C.I.E.

Coming out to India in 1937 as Metallurgical Inspector in the Indian Stores Department, you joined the Supply Department as Director of Metals' in August, 1940, and some months ago you were appointed Chief Metallurgist in the Department of Supply, Calcutta. Throughout your service and particularly during the last two years, your technical work on steel supplies has been of very great value to Government.

In the name of the King-Emperor and by His Majesty's Command, I invest you with the Insignia of the Most Eminent Order of the Indian Empire, of which His Majesty has been pleased to appoint you a Companion.

MR. HENRY WILLIAM THEODORE HAIN, C.B.E.

The firm of Braithwaite & Company is perhaps the largest firm of Steel Structural Engineers in the East. It has undertaken important contracts for the War Office and in Iraq, and has completed the

construction of a bridge over the Suez Canal. As the dominant partner in the Braithwaite, Burn & Jessop Combine the firm has also been responsible for much of the work on the Howrah Bridge and Admiralty floating docks. In your capacity as Managing Director of this firm, you are entitled to a great portion of the credit for the work which it has done, and both in this respect and as Chairman of the Indian Engineers Association, your services have proved of the greatest assistance to the Supply Department of the Government of India.

In the name of the King-Emperor and by His Majesty's Command, I invest you with the Insignia of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire, of which His Majesty has been pleased to appoint you a Commander.

MAHAMAHOPADHYAYA PANDIT HARAN CHANDRA BHATTACHARYYA.

You are a member of the Bengal Subordinate Educational Service and hold the post of Lecturer in Panini, Sanskrit College, Calcutta. Since 1916 you have been attached to several Sanskrit institutions of repute, and have obtained a well-deserved reputation for critical scholarship, particularly in the field of grammatical literature. You have to your credit a work of original research, which constitutes a critical study of the concept of time in the various systems of Indian philosophy.

I congratulate you upon the distinction now conferred upon you.

**LT.-COL. LEONARD GEORGE BAILEY, O.B.E.**

As Mechanical Engineer and Superintendent of the Khargpur Workshops of the Bengal Nagpur Railway Company, you have been responsible for the planning and organisation required to deal with the production of large quantities of munitions. The quality of this production has earned high praise from the Master-General of Ordnance and the Director-General of Munitions Production, and the credit for this is largely due to your organising ability, technical skill and hard work.

In the name of the King-Emperor and by His Majesty's Command, I present you with the Badge of an Officer of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire.

**MR. DESMOND ANTHONY BRAYDEN, O.B.E., I.P.**

Since you joined the Indian Police in 1921, you have acquired a reputation for energy and ability, both in district executive work and in the provincial Intelligence Branch. In March, 1939, you were appointed Central Intelligence Officer for Bengal, and your services in this capacity, under conditions requiring at all times considerable tact and a balanced judgment, have been of a uniformly high standard.

In the name of the King-Emperor and by His Majesty's Command, I present you with the Badge of an Officer of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire.

**MR. ARTHUR COULTON HARTLEY, O.B.E., I.C.S.**

You entered the Indian Civil Service in 1929, and your work as Settlement Officer, Rangpur and Dinajpur districts, and as District Magistrate, Hooghly, was of a high order. As Assistant Secretary to the Governor from 1938 until 1940, you displayed commendable industry and ability, and your recent work as District Magistrate of Howrah has proved of great value to Government. You have been particularly successful in organising the A. R. P. Services, and the large parade of A. R. P. and Civil Defence workers which was inspected last year by His Royal Highness the Duke of Gloucester was a tribute to your energetic and able administration.

In the name of the King-Emperor and by His Majesty's Command, I present you with the Badge of an Officer of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire.

**MR. WALTER ALAN SCOTT LEWIS, O.B.E., I.C.S.**

Joining the Indian Civil Service in 1931, you were Labour Commissioner in Bengal in 1940 when you were also appointed as part-time Chairman of the National Service Labour Tribunal under the National Service (Technical Personnel) Ordinance. You became full-time Chairman of the latter at the end of 1941. The Bengal Tribunal covers the largest industrial area in India, and both as Chairman, and as President of the Bengal Technical Training Selection Committee, you have rendered excellent service to Government. You have proved



yourself to be a conscientious and most hard-working Officer, and have spared no effort to make both the Ordinance and the Training Scheme a success.

In the name of the King-Emperor and by His Majesty's Command, I present you with the Badge of an Officer of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire.

**RAI NARENDRA KUMAR MITRA BAHADUR, O.B.E.**

You joined the East Indian Railway in 1913, and received the title of Rai Bahadur in 1939 for the success with which you had filled a variety of posts ranging from Assistant Engineer to Divisional Superintendent. In 1940 you were selected as the first Indian Engineer to officiate as Chief Engineer of the Railway, and you were confirmed in that appointment in the following year. You have shown yourself to be an Officer of marked personality and reliability in the difficult circumstances arising from the war.

In the name of the King-Emperor and by His Majesty's Command, I present you with the Badge of an Officer of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire.

**MR. SATISH CHANDRA MITTER, O.B.E.**

You entered Government Service as an Industrial Engineer in 1925, and as Deputy Director of Industries from 1934, you proved your administrative ability in connection with the Unemployment Relief and the Detenu Training Schemes. You were confirmed as Director of

Industries in 1937, and during the past year, in your capacity as agent for the Government of India in the organisation of small scale industries for war supplies, you have repeatedly earned the appreciation of the Supply Department, and have succeeded in placing increasingly large orders for war materials, which are both a benefit to the Province and a contribution to the war effort.

In the name of the King-Emperor and by His Majesty's Command, I present you with the Badge of an Officer of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire.

MAJOR RUPERT BURRINGTON, M.B.E.

You joined the Bengal & Assam Railway from the Royal Indian Marine in 1921, and were confirmed as Marine Superintendent two years later. Since February, 1942, you have been responsible for the efficient working of the ferry service between Pandu and Amingaon, under the extremely trying conditions resulting from intensive troop movements in one direction and the evacuation of very large numbers of refugees from Burma in the other. Your work in this respect has been most praiseworthy and has proved of the greatest value to Government.

In the name of the King-Emperor and by His Majesty's Command, I hand you the Badge of a Member of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire.

**MR. GEORGE WILFRID DAVIS, M.B.E.**

After holding the posts of Deputy Superintendent and Press & Forms Manager in the Bengal Government Press, you were confirmed in 1938 in the post of Superintendent, Government Printing, Bengal. As Superintendent you have kept the Press in a high state of efficiency under very heavy pressure, and although the war has added greatly to your work and has deprived you of the services of one of your Deputy Superintendents, you have cheerfully and efficiently shouldered the additional labours and responsibilities involved, and your services have been greatly appreciated by Government.

In the name of the King-Emperor and by His Majesty's Command, I hand you the Badge of a Member of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire.

**MR. WILLIAM RICHARD DAVIS, M.B.E.**

As Chief Engineer, Metal Box Company of India Limited, Calcutta, you have been most energetic in organising the production of various types of stores required for the Defence Services. Many millions of articles have been produced in the factories under your charge; and you have given great assistance to Government by experimental work in trying out new designs or types. Your technical knowledge and experience have always been at the disposal of India's war efforts, and these have benefited very considerably from your own.

In the name of the King-Emperor and by His Majesty's Command, I hand you the Badge of a Member of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire.

MR. ANGELO FIRPO, M.B.E.

You came out to India in 1905, and became a naturalized British subject 9 years later. As Managing Director of the firm of A. Firpo, Limited, you have made munificent donations to war funds and to charities, and in the early months of 1942, you made your Peliti's Restaurant available as a Services Canteen in which hundreds of meals have been served daily to British troops. This is a most commendable example of voluntary effort, and in this, as well as in a variety of other ways, you have rendered notable assistance in the prosecution of the war.

In the name of the King-Emperor and by His Majesty's Command, I hand you the Badge of a Member of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire.

MR. PRANAB KUMAR SEN, M.B.E., I.P.

After joining the Indian Police in 1937, you were in 1941 appointed as Special A. R. P. Officer for Howrah. For a time you were directly responsible for the organisation of A. R. P. Services in the district, and subsequently as Officer-in-charge of the Wardens Service, you secured 80 per cent. of the total recruitment required, before Calcutta and the neighbouring districts had attained 20 per cent.

of their requirements. You have shown outstanding ability and great tact in your relations with the personnel under your command and with members of the public, and your work in this sphere has been most valuable.

In the name of the King-Emperor and by His Majesty's Command, I hand you the Badge of a Member of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire.

MAJOR CECIL BERNARD SEXTON, M.B.E.

Your connection with Survey work dates from 1907, and you were mentioned in despatches during the last war. Coming to Bengal in 1928 you have now held for 8 years the responsible post of Officer-in-charge, Bengal Traverse Party and Drawing Office. The excellence of your work has resulted in your promotion to the First Class of your Service, and your abilities have proved of the greatest value to Settlement Operations in this Province.

In the name of the King-Emperor and by His Majesty's Command, I hand you the Badge of a Member of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire.

MRS. HELEN MARTIN.

Since you first came to India you have taken a keen interest in all forms of humanitarian activity, and your work for the Girl Guides of Darjeeling, Calcutta and Chittagong was of real value to their organisation. Since the outbreak of the present

war, you have been actively concerned with Nursing, and your daily attendance at the Military Hospital at Comilla in 1942 was greatly appreciated by the military authorities. You also organised a small staff of voluntary nurses, which proved of particular value to the comfort of patients in this hospital. Since returning to Calcutta, you have continued your work in the Military Hospitals here ; and in this sphere you are continuing the fine example of energy and enthusiasm in voluntary public work which you have set for many years.

In the name of the King-Emperor and by His Majesty's Command, I present you with the Kaisar-I-Hind Medal in Gold for public service in India.

**KHAN BAHADUR AMINUZZAMAN KHAN.**

You entered the Bengal Civil Service (Executive) in 1912, and after being Personal Assistant to the Commissioner of the Presidency Division for six years from 1920 onwards, you held charge successively of the districts of Hooghly, Howrah, Pabna and Rajshahi. In the two latter you successfully dealt with troublesome communal situations, and your energetic action prevented the development of major trouble of any kind.

In recognition of your services, His Excellency the Viceroy has now been pleased to confer upon you the title of Khan Bahadur, and I have much pleasure in investing you with the Badge of that title.

**RAI AKHIL RANJAN MAJUMDAR BAHADUR.**

You have worked in the Medical Service of Government since 1914, and after holding a variety of posts in Calcutta, you are now Professor of Clinical Medicine and Second Physician 'to the Medical College Hospitals, Calcutta. You have proved to be a successful teacher and are the author of two important works on medical science, which are widely used as text-books in schools and colleges. In a variety of ways you have done much to further the interests of Medicine generally, and you have also played an active part in the organisation of A. R. P. measures in the hospitals.

In recognition of your services, His Excellency the Viceroy has now been pleased to confer upon you the title of 'Rai Bahadur, and I have much pleasure in investing you with the Badge of that title.

**RAI ANIL CHANDRA LAHIRI BAHADUR.**

Entering the Bengal Junior Civil Service in 1913, you were promoted to the Bengal Civil Service in 1926, and in 1934 you received the title of Rai Sahib in recognition of the work which you had done while on special duty in the Settlement Department. On three occasions you acted for short periods as Deputy Commissioner, Chittagong Hill-tracts, and in 1938 you conducted a valuable enquiry into the fisheries of Bengal. In the following year you became Probate Deputy Collector of Stamp Revenue, Calcutta, and have discharged the duties of that office with diligence and success.

In recognition of your services, His Excellency the Viceroy has now been pleased to confer upon you the title of Rai Bahadur, and I have much pleasure in investing you with the Badge of that title.

**RAI JAMINI MOHAN CHATARJI BAHADUR.**

You have had a creditable career in the Bengal Police Service since 1914, and were awarded the title of Rai Sahib in 1932 for your good work as an Inspector of Police. Subsequently you served as a Deputy Superintendent of Police in several districts, and you have a fine record of hard work and devotion to duty, while your ability and great experience have rendered you a most useful servant of Government.

In recognition of your services, His Excellency the Viceroy has now been pleased to confer upon you the title of Rai Bahadur, and I have much pleasure in investing you with the Badge of that title.

**RAI KESHAB CHANDRA SEN GUPTA BAHADUR.**

You have been in Government Service since 1916, and are now in the grade of Civil Surgeon in the Bengal Medical Service. You were deputed to the Jail Department nearly 3 years ago and, as Superintendent successively of the Midnapore Central and Dum Dum Central Jails, you have shown great tact and ability in dealing with large numbers of terrorist prisoners and persons convicted under the Defence of India Rules. Your work in this capacity has been difficult and arduous, and



you have performed it in a manner which reflects great credit upon you.

In recognition of your services, His Excellency the Viceroy has now been pleased to confer upon you the title of Rai Bahadur, and I have much pleasure in investing you with the Badge of that title.

**RAI SAWALRAM KANORIA BAHADUR.**

As an elected member of the Indian Jute Mills Association and a prominent merchant of Calcutta, you have used your position and influence to improve the conditions between capital and labour, and to assist and encourage various forms of war effort. You are also responsible for constructing a Model School and a Dharamsala in Calcutta, and have contributed generously towards the improvement of the Ashutosh College and the Walsh Hospital at Serampore.

In recognition of your services, His Excellency the Viceroy has now been pleased to confer upon you the title of Rai Bahadur, and I have much pleasure in investing you with the Badge of that title.

**RAI BASUDEB BANERJEE BAHADUR.**

After working as an Officer of the East Indian Railway since 1915, you were transferred in 1928 to the Bengal Nagpur Railway and placed in charge of the Cash and Pay Department. Your work there was of a high order and was recognised by the award to you of the title of Rai Sahib. Since then

you have dealt admirably with the additional responsibilities which have devolved upon you, and you have effected considerable improvements in the working of your department, particularly with respect to the operation of the Payment of Wages Act.

In recognition of your services, His Excellency the Viceroy has now been pleased to confer upon you the title of Rai Bahadur, and I have much pleasure in investing you with the Badge of that title.

**RAO MAHADEVA IYER GANAPATI BAHADUR.**

Entering the service of the East Indian Railway in 1928, you were confirmed in the junior scale in the Indian Railway Service of Engineers in 1931, and during the recent disturbances you were in charge of that portion of the Lucknow Division in which most of the trouble occurred. Despite the fact that you were isolated from your headquarters, you organised your patrols most efficiently and thereby prevented much damage being done to Government property. You toured throughout your section with complete disregard for your personal safety, and the results of the energetic way in which you dealt with the situation were most valuable to Government.

In recognition of your services, His Excellency the Viceroy has now been pleased to confer upon you the title of Rao Bahadur, and I have much pleasure in investing you with the Badge of that title.

**RAI SAHIB SURJA KANTA BHATTACHARJEE.**

You entered the service of the Eastern Bengal Railway in 1920 and became an Executive Engineer 9 years later. As officer-in-charge of the stone supply for work on the Hardingè Bridge during 1933 and 1934, you displayed intelligence and forethought in overcoming many difficulties, and you also did very good work when the bridge was threatened by the heavy floods of 1936 and 1938.

In recognition of your services, His Excellency the Viceroy has now been pleased to confer upon you the title of Rai Sahib, and I have much pleasure in investing you with the Badge of that title.

**RAI SAHIB TARA KRISHNA SIL.**

You entered the service of the Custom House, Calcutta, as a lower division clerk and were later promoted successively to the Upper Division, to the post of Deputy Superintendent and to that of Treasurer. You have discharged your heavy responsibilities as Treasurer in a reliable and efficient manner, and your record of 36 years service has been consistently good.

In recognition of your services, His Excellency the Viceroy has now been pleased to confer upon you the title of Rai Sahib, and I have much pleasure in investing you with the Badge of that title.

**KHAN SAHIB HAZI DOST MOHAMMAD.**

During your many years residence at Chittagong, your public spirited activities were illustrated by your contributions towards the relief of distress and the construction of works of public utility. The Maternity and Child Welfare Association and a number of other local institutions have greatly benefited from your generosity.

In recognition of your services, His Excellency the Viceroy has now been pleased to confer upon you the title of Khan Sahib, and I have much pleasure in investing you with the Badge of that title.

**KHAN SAHIB MAULVI MUHAMMAD FAZLUR RAHMAN.**

You became a Sub-deputy Collector in 1925 and were promoted to the Bengal Civil Service (Executive) in 1936. As Subdivisional Officer at Mymensingh, a great portion of the work connected with the war activities of the district fell to your share, and you performed it with commendable energy. Your steadiness during the communal tension of 1941 helped to allay sectarian disturbances and won you the confidence of members of all communities.

\* In recognition of your services, His Excellency the Viceroy has now been pleased to confer upon you the title of Khan Sahib, and I have much pleasure in investing you with the Badge of that title.

**KHAN SAHIB MAULVI ABUL KHAIR MUHAMMAD  
SIDDIQ.**

You have served in the Registration Department for nearly 34 years, and for the last 5 years you have held the important post of Sub-Registrar of Assurances, Calcutta. Your work has at all times been characterised by reliability and efficiency, and your services have been of great value to Government.

In recognition of your services, His Excellency the Viceroy has now been pleased to confer upon you the title of Khan Sahib, and I have much pleasure in investing you with the Badge of that title.

**KHAN SAHIB MAULVI ABDUL KAREEM.**

As President of the Parulia Union Board in Khulna district for 16 years, you have proved yourself to be a successful administrator, and as Captain of the local Village Defence Party and Secretary of the War Committee, you have rendered valuable assistance to the district authorities. Rural reconstruction, adult education and work for the eradication of water hyacinth have all benefited from the interest which you have taken in them.

In recognition of your services, His Excellency the Viceroy has now been pleased to confer upon you the title of Khan Sahib, and I have much pleasure in investing you with the Badge of that title.

**RAI SAHIB SHYAM SUNDAR BATABYAL.**

After many years service in the Calcutta Improvement Trust, you have risen to your present position of Deputy Valuer, and in this capacity your hard work, loyalty and rectitude have set an admirable example to your subordinates and have proved of the greatest value to the operations of the Trust itself.

In recognition of your services, His Excellency the Viceroy has now been pleased to confer upon you the title of Rai Sahib, and I have much pleasure in investing you with the Badge of that title.

**RAI SAHIB DINESH CHANDRA GUPTA.**

Since you entered Government service as a Sub-deputy Collector in 1920, you have proved yourself to be a most useful and able Revenue Officer, and as Personal Assistant to the Director of Land Records & Surveys, as Special Land Acquisition Officer and as a Khasmahal Officer, your work has been of real value to Government. In your present post at Alipore, you have shown commendable energy in dealing with the arduous work involved by the requisitioning of lands and houses to meet military requirements.

In recognition of your services, His Excellency the Viceroy has now been pleased to confer upon you the title of Rai Sahib, and I have much pleasure in investing you with the Badge of that title.

**RAI SAHIB HEMANTA KUMAR BHATTACHARYYA.**

You entered the Bengal Secretariat in 1914 and have worked in the Finance Department since 1921. You became Assistant Secretary, Budget Branch, in 1938, and your work in this capacity has been distinguished by the conscientiousness, accuracy and sound judgment which has, throughout your service, rendered you an officer of outstanding value to Government.

In recognition of your services, His Excellency the Viceroy has now been pleased to confer upon you the title of Rai Sahib, and I have much pleasure in investing you with the Badge of that title.

**RAI SAHIB SUDHIR KUMAR MAZUMDAR.**

After serving in various districts as a member of the Bengal Civil Service (Executive) since 1922, you became Assistant Secretary to Government in the Department of Communications and Works in 1940, and in this post you have shown a uniformly high appreciation of the responsible duties of your office. Your work throughout your service has been conscientious and able.

In recognition of your services, His Excellency the Viceroy has now been pleased to confer upon you the title of Rai Sahib, and I have much pleasure in investing you with the Badge of that title.

**RAI SAHIB SHYAMAPADA CHATTERJEE.**

You entered the Bengal Police in 1913 and after confirmation as an Inspector in 1932, you

were transferred to the Investigating Staff of the Calcutta Police four years later. Since the outbreak of war, your work in the Foreign Section of the Special Branch has proved invaluable, and in your present employment in the Security Control Office you have rendered very valuable services to Government.

In recognition of your services, His Excellency the Viceroy has now been pleased to confer upon you the title of Rai Sahib, and I have much pleasure in investing you with the Badge of that title.

**RAI SAHIB DHIRENDRA NATH BANERJEE.**

Entering Government service in 1907, you became an Electrical Upper Subordinate in 1921, and before your recent retirement you were for a number of years in independent charge of all the electrical installations in Government House, Calcutta, and its adjacent quarters. Your work during 35 years of service has been most able and valuable to Government.

In recognition of your services, His Excellency the Viceroy has now been pleased to confer upon you the title of Rai Sahib, and I have much pleasure in investing you with the Badge of that title.

**RAI SAHIB JYOTI PRASAD AGARWALA.**

You are well known in Howrah as a businessman and philanthropist, and as Vice-Chairman of the Lillooh Union Board, you have rendered



great assistance to the authorities in recruitment for A. R. P. Services, in the organisation of propaganda meetings and in the support of evacuation schemes. You have also helped the community at large by assisting in the provision of rice at reasonable prices.

In recognition of your services, His Excellency the Viceroy has now been pleased to confer upon you the title of Rai Sahib, and I have much pleasure in investing you with the Badge of that title.

MRS. SUSAMA BANERJEE.

You organised the Midnapore Branch of the Bengal Women's War Fund in 1940 and played an active part in raising subscriptions for War Funds and flood relief in that district. The results which you achieved in an area previously notorious for non-co-operation were of great value, and you continued your good work subsequently in the district of Mymensingh.

On behalf of His Excellency the Viceroy, I present you with the Kaisar-I-Hind Medal in Silver for public service in India.

KAZI ABDUL LATIF.

You have been President of the Kachua Union Board, Jessore district, for more than 10 years, and in that capacity have interested yourself in efficient administration and public welfare. Your concern for the improvement of social conditions has been shown by the interest which you have taken in

local educational institutions and by your work as Chairman of the Jute Committee. In a variety of ways you have conferred considerable benefits upon the community in general.

On behalf of His Excellency the Viceroy, I present you with the Kaisar-I-Hind Medal in Bronze for public service in India.

MR. MUHAMMAD AL-MAMUN EFFENDI.

As Civic Guard Commandant, Beniapukur district, Calcutta, you have taken a keen interest in building up and maintaining the Civic Guard organisation. You have proved yourself to be a most energetic officer, and your assistance has at all times been of great value to the Commissioner of Police and the Civic Guard authorities.

On behalf of His Excellency the Viceroy, I present you with the Kaisar-I-Hind Medal in Bronze for public service in India.

BABU KANAI LAL MANDAL.

You have been largely responsible for the training and organisation of Civic Guards in the Amherst Street Area, Calcutta, and your work as Commandant has been carried on in addition to your professional duties as a solicitor. The degree of success which you have achieved is a striking tribute to your organising capacity, and has been of real value to the authorities.

On behalf of His Excellency the Viceroy, I present you with the Kaisar-I-Hind Medal in Bronze for public service in India.

**MR. LAWRENCE BENJAMIN MAPLE.**

You have worked in the Posts and Telegraphs Department since 1912, and as Deputy Assistant Engineer, Telegraphs, Calcutta, you have performed with ability the heavy additional duties resulting from the war. You have also been of the greatest help to the Postmaster-General in organising A. R. P. work, and after qualifying yourself as a first class Instructor, you have trained over 1,000 members of the staff in A. R. P. activities.

On behalf of His Excellency the Viceroy, I present you with the Kaisar-I-Hind Medal in Bronze for public service in India.

**BABU AMAR NATH PAKHIRA.**

As President of the Shyampur Union Board, Howrah district, and Chairman of the Debt Settlement Board, you have done much to improve water supply and village roads, and to further the movement for debt conciliation. In these capacities you have won the respect of all sections of the community, and you have at all times set an example of loyal co-operation and efficient administration.

On behalf of His Excellency the Viceroy, I present you with the Kaisar-I-Hind Medal in Bronze for public service in India.

**MR. GEORGE HERBERT PERKINS.**

As Deputy Assistant Engineer, Telegraphs, Calcutta, you have built up an effective A.R.P. Organisation for the Storeyard and Workshops, and

the extent to which you have made provision for A.R.P. demonstrations has proved most valuable. You have also fitted up an A.R.P. Control and Reporting Centre, which has worked very efficiently.

On behalf of His Excellency the Viceroy, I present you with the Kaisar-I-Hind Medal in Bronze for public service in India.

MR. SADEQUE HOSSAIN.

You have done excellent work as District Commandant of Civic Guards at Chitpur, Calcutta, and have used your personal influence to organise and sustain the Civic Guard Movement in that locality. You have devoted a considerable portion of your leisure time to this object, and your labours have proved of real help to the Commissioner of Police and to the Police authorities in general.

On behalf of His Excellency the Viceroy, I present you with the Kaisar-I-Hind Medal in Bronze for public service in India.

**His Excellency's Addresses to gentlemen Invested at Midnapore on the 12th February 1943.**

**KHAN SAHIB SYED FURROKH MEERZA.**

Entering the Bengal Civil Service (Executive) in 1920, you were placed on special duty in the Home Department in 1928, and from 1934 until 1936 you were Personal Assistant to the Commissioner of the Chittagong Division. Thereafter for 5 years you held the responsible office of Assistant Secretary to Government in the Irrigation Department; and in September, 1941, you were appointed to your present post of Subdivisional Officer, Jhargram, Midnapore district. Throughout your career your work for Government has been characterised by intelligence, energy and efficiency, and you have also found time to interest yourself in the provision of facilities for the public in the various stations in which you have served.

In recognition of your services His Excellency the Viceroy has now been pleased to confer upon you the title of Khan Sahib, and I have much pleasure in investing you with the Badge of that title.

**RAI SAHIB SUDHANSHU BIMAL DAS GUPTA.**

Between the 15th September and 2nd October, 1942, while you were holding the appointment of Manager and Khas Mahal Officer at Contai, Midnapore district, you were left in charge of the civil administration of the Bhagwanpur Police-Station,

during the period of the disturbances. The whole area was in the hands of rioters who burnt several offices, destroyed means of communication and held up essential supplies. You successfully maintained the morale of your subordinates and also beat off a determined attack made on the 29th September by a crowd of about 5,000 persons, who sought to destroy the Police-Station. Subsequently you carried out a number of raids on camps of hostile rioters in the neighbourhood, and you continued to defend Government property and personnel until you were relieved by the arrival of the military. Your energy, initiative and courage in the face of heavy odds and while completely cut off from help were of the most admirable character.

In recognition of your services His Excellency the Viceroy has now been pleased to confer upon you the title of Rai Sahib, and I have much pleasure in investing you with the Badge of that title.

INSPECTOR ABUL FAZLE MUHAMMAD BADARUDDIN.

On the 29th September, 1942, while on your way to Iswarpur in Nandigram Police-Station, Midnapore district, you were confronted by a crowd of some 5,000 persons who attacked your party with deadly weapons. You were compelled to open fire, and successfully dispersed the rioters and retained in custody certain individuals whom you had arrested. On the 2nd October following, you were deputed to Bhagwanpur Police-Station with a platoon of military, and from that time until the

12th October, when you were relieved, you carried out a successful campaign of raids on camps and searches of the houses of leaders and volunteers, thereby recovering several guns which would otherwise have fallen into the hands of the rioters. Throughout these operations your personal courage, keenness and energy were an inspiration to all your subordinates.

In recognition of the bravery which you displayed on that occasion, I have much pleasure in decorating you with the Indian Police Medal for Gallantry which has been awarded to you.

#### SUB-INSPECTOR KAZI GOLAM SARWAR.

On the 29th September, 1942, a hostile mob of about 16,000 persons attacked the Mahisadal Police-Station, Midnapore district, and the residence of the local zamindars. The mob was armed with various weapons and carried materials intended for incendiary purposes. You were the Officer-in-charge of the Police-Station at the time, and had a Force of only 16 armed Police, who were assisted by 7 members of the bodyguard of one of the zamindars. Dividing the Force into two parties, you led one of them in an attack on the crowd, which you managed to disperse by gun fire. Subsequently you repelled a second attack and saved the Police-Station from destruction. In these various operations you made your dispositions with skill and ability, and your initiative and personal courage proved a great inspiration to your own small Force.

In recognition of the bravery which you displayed on that occasion, I have much pleasure in decorating you with the Indian Police Medal for Gallantry which has been awarded to you.

OFFG. SUB-INSPECTOR AMULYA CHARAN GHOSAL.

On the 29th September, 1942, a crowd of about 10,000 persons armed with various weapons made an attack on the Bhagwanpur Police-Station, Midnapore district. You and the Khas Mahal Officer made preparations to meet this attack, and for 3½ hours you and your small Force of constables successfully repelled repeated attacks launched by the rioters. You eventually succeeded in dispersing the mob after firing on them, and although no reinforcements arrived until the 2nd October following, you continued during this period to take the offensive against those who were disturbing the peace. Your conduct throughout these operations was of a most courageous and meritorious character.

In recognition of the bravery which you displayed on that occasion, I have much pleasure in decorating you with the Indian Police Medal for Gallantry which has been awarded to you.

OFFG. SUB-INSPECTOR MANINDRA NATH BANARJI.

On the 29th September, 1942, 3 mobs of armed rioters converged on the town of Tamluk, Midnapore district, from various directions. With a small party of 6 armed and 6 unarmed Constables, you intercepted one of these mobs, and after a



lathi charge had not succeeded, you ordered your men to open fire. You used the minimum force necessary and succeeded in dispersing the mob; and your gallantry in the face of overwhelming odds and your firmness, when confronted with a most dangerous situation, contributed in large measure not merely to the preservation of your own Force, but also to the saving of the Police-Station itself.

In recognition of the bravery which you displayed on that occasion, I have much pleasure in decorating you with the Indian Police Medal for Gallantry which has been awarded to you. .

PROBATIONARY SUB-INSPECTOR SAIYID NASIRUDDIN  
MUHAMMAD.

On the 29th September, 1942, you proved of the greatest assistance to Inspector Badaruddin when it was found necessary to open fire on a hostile crowd in Nandigram Police-Station, Midnapore district. From the 1st to the 11th October following, you accompanied a Magistrate and a platoon of military in a series of raids on the camps of rioters and searches of the houses of leaders and volunteers; and on the 8th October, while returning to the Police-Station with certain arrested persons, you and your party were again compelled to open fire on a crowd of some 5,000 rioters who attacked you. Although you are a junior officer, you showed remarkable courage and devotion to duty in circumstances of great danger during these various operations.

In recognition of the bravery which you displayed on that occasion, I have much pleasure in decorating you with the Indian Police Medal for Gallantry which has been awarded to you.

ASSISTANT SUB-INSPECTOR BAIJUDDIN KHUNDKAR.

On the 30th September, 1942, some 8,000 rioters, many of them armed with deadly weapons, made a determined attack on the Nandigram Police-Station, Midnapore district, of which you were in temporary charge during the absence of your superior officers. You had at your disposal only 5 armed constables, but despite this meagre Force, you organised a most successful defence in the face of overwhelming odds, and by the tenacity of your resistance, you saved the Police-Station from certain destruction. You displayed admirable leadership, courage and calmness in the face of grave danger, and your general conduct was an inspiration to the small Force under your command.

In recognition of the bravery which you displayed on that occasion, I have much pleasure in decorating you with the Indian Police Medal for Gallantry which has been awarded to you.

CONSTABLE No. 883 SHIBANANDA SARMA.

On the 29th September, 1942, you were on duty at the Bhagwanpur Police-Station, which was attacked for 3½ hours by a large crowd of about 10,000 rioters. The Police-Station was cut off from assistance, and all messages from it were intercepted. Despite the extreme danger of the situation, you set an admirable example to your fellows, and by your personal courage you inspired

them to offer a staunch resistance. The Police-Station was not relieved until the 2nd October following, and during the whole of this period your courageous devotion to duty in the face of very real peril proved to be an inspiration to the remaining members of the Force.

In recognition of the bravery which you displayed on that occasion, I have much pleasure in decorating you with the Indian Police Medal for Gallantry which has been awarded to you.

CONSTABLE No. 1223 LANGAR KHAN.

On the 27th September, 1942, you were a member of a small armed Police party which succeeded in dispersing by gun fire a crowd of some 5,000 rioters which attacked you at Iswarpur, Nandigram Police-Station, Midnapore district. Thereafter you were the first to return to the Police-Station and to help in its defence; and on the 30th September following, you gave most valuable assistance to the Assistant Sub-Inspector when a very large crowd of rioters made a determined attack on this Police-Station. You displayed most commendable courage and devotion to duty in facing this mob, and by your personal example you maintained the morale of your fellow constables in circumstances of great danger.

In recognition of the bravery which you displayed on that occasion, I have much pleasure in decorating you with the Indian Police Medal for Gallantry which has been awarded to you.

**His Excellency's Short Addresses to recipients of Medals at the Police Parade on the 13th March 1943.**

MR. JOSEPH WILLIAM PURDY, I.P.

You were Additional Superintendent of Police in charge of Dacca City when the communal disturbances broke out there in March, 1941. These continued intermittently until the beginning of the cold weather. Although the normal Police Force was insufficient to deal with them, you made the best dispositions possible in the early stages, and worked out efficient arrangements for employing reinforcements. You remained cool and level-headed in various emergencies, and managed to retain the confidence of each community. On one occasion you succeeded in keeping two hostile mobs separated; and throughout a period of great stress, your ability and leadership were of real value to Government in dealing with these riots.

His Majesty has been pleased to recognise your services by the grant of the King's Police and Fire Services Medal with which I have now much pleasure in decorating you.

MR. UPANANDA MUKHARJI, I.P.

You were Additional Superintendent of Police, Dacca district, when the communal disturbances began in March, 1941, and you dealt ably with the arson and looting which accompanied them in the early stages. When they spread to the interior of

the district, you showed a marked sense of responsibility and unflagging zeal and energy in carrying out operations over a large area and without prejudice to the interests of either community. On one occasion your intervention saved the staff of the Sibpore Police-Station from serious danger.

His Majesty has been pleased to recognise your services by the grant of the King's Police and Fire Services Medal with which I have now much pleasure in decorating you.

MR. GEORGE HAYWOOD.

You were the Armed Inspector at Dacca throughout the period of the communal disturbances, which lasted from March until October, 1941. In this capacity you were continuously on duty, dispersing mobs and extinguishing fires, and on the 21st March, you showed exemplary leadership in making nearly 100 arrests after a riotous mob had fired on a police party. On a subsequent occasion you extricated your force from an ambush; and your leadership of the Tear Smoke Squad and your courage and devotion to duty during eight very trying months were extremely meritorious.

His Majesty has been pleased to recognise your services by the grant of the King's Police and Fire Services Medal with which I have now much pleasure in decorating you.

MR. GEORGE EDWARD ALLAN.

You were Patrol Inspector, Dacca City, during the communal riots lasting from March until

October, 1941, and in that capacity were responsible for maintaining discipline in 14 Town Outposts and for liaison between the Superintendent of Police and the constables on duty. Your intimate knowledge of the city proved invaluable to your superiors, and the manner in which you maintained the morale of the men under your command and also dispersed mobs and extinguished fires was most praiseworthy.

His Majesty has been pleased to recognise your services by the grant of the King's Police and Fire Services Medal with which I have now much pleasure in decorating you.

MR. WILLIAM JOHN COTTAM, I.P.

On the 29th August, 1942, while you were on duty near Bolpur Railway Station in Birbhum district, a mob of about 3,000 persons armed with various weapons attempted to loot the goods-shed. You rallied the small force consisting of a Sub-Inspector and some constables who were present, and by opening fire with your own revolver and by encouraging your men, you succeeded, despite a hail of brickbats, in keeping the crowd at bay until the arrival of a contingent of the East Indian Railway regiment. You were not expecting this reinforcement, and you showed admirable qualities of leadership and personal courage in the face of considerable danger.

In recognition of the bravery which you displayed on that occasion, I have much pleasure in decorating you with the Indian Police Medal for Gallantry which has been awarded to you.

**BABU CHITTARANJAN GANGULY.**

On the 29th August, 1942, a riotous mob of about 3,000 persons made a determined attack on the Bolpur Railway Station, where you were on duty with a small force of constables. You led your men in charging this mob and saved the station and its staff from further damage or injury. You then joined the Superintendent of Police, Mr. Cottam, and assisted in keeping the mob at a distance until you were relieved by a detachment of the East Indian Railway regiment. You displayed great courage in facing an angry mob with a few men armed only with lathis, and your behaviour in circumstances of real danger was most admirable.

In recognition of the bravery which you displayed on that occasion, I have much pleasure in decorating you with the Indian Police Medal for Gallantry which has been awarded to you.

**BABU DINESH CHANDRA BARMAN.**

On the 22nd September, 1942, you successfully drove off a mob of about 1,000 persons who were attempting to set fire to Government buildings at Nawabganj, Dacca district. A number of country-made bombs were thrown at your small party of constables, one of whom was also wounded by a spear and subsequently died. By opening fire you managed to break up the mob and recover some bombs, weapons and kerosene oil intended for incendiary purposes. Throughout these operations, you displayed Gallantry and initiative of a most praiseworthy character.

In recognition of the bravery which you displayed on that occasion, I have much pleasure in decorating you with the Indian Police Medal for Gallantry which has been awarded to you.

BABU NIRANJAN GHOSH.

On the 20th August, 1942, you found a riotous mob attempting to loot and damage a rice mill in Howrah district. Forcing your way into the building, you found that a number of boxes had been broken up and that looting had already started. The rioters pelted you with coal, but by opening fire with your revolver, you succeeded in driving them away for the time being. In this action you displayed personal Gallantry of a high order in the face of very considerable danger.

In recognition of the bravery which you displayed on that occasion, I have much pleasure in decorating you with the Indian Police Medal for Gallantry which has been awarded to you.

CONSTABLE MIR KAMIRUL HAQUE.

On the 6th January, 1942, you and 3 members of the rural police were present in a village of Dinajpur district, where a Sub-Inspector was enquiring into the action of some Krishak Praja volunteers. The Sub-Inspector was attacked by a mob armed with various weapons, and the rural police fled. You intervened on behalf of your Superior Officer and succeeded in saving his life at the cost of serious injuries to yourself. Your



bravery and resource were particularly commendable, in view of the fact that at that time you were still a probationer with less than 3 years service.

In recognition of the bravery which you displayed on that occasion, I have much pleasure in decorating you with the Indian Police Medal for Gallantry which has been awarded to you.

CONSTABLE AMZAD HOSSAIN.

On the 22nd September, 1942, you were a member of a party ordered to deal with a large mob that was threatening to damage Government buildings at Nawabganj, Dacca district. The Sub-Inspector in charge of the party ordered you to open fire with a shot gun, and you twice advanced against the rioters and fired one round of buckshot on each occasion. You displayed conspicuous courage in the face of considerable danger, and your determination in carrying out the orders given to you undoubtedly helped to save the party of which you were a member.

In recognition of the bravery which you displayed on that occasion, I have much pleasure in decorating you with the Indian Police Medal for Gallantry which has been awarded to you.

**His Excellency's Speech at the Annual Convocation  
of the Calcutta University held on the 13th March  
1943.**

By virtue of his office, the Governor of Bengal finds himself Chancellor of this University, and although the present Chancellor has no part in the day to day administration of its concerns, I can assure you that he feels a deep interest in the University itself and does not hesitate to impress upon the Governor the need for encouraging its activities and safeguarding its interests. I therefore want to make it clear that to-day I am addressing you as Chancellor, and I trust that my remarks will be received with the realization that platitudes produce few results, but that plain speaking may be of help.

The Vice-Chancellor has mentioned the losses which the University has sustained during the past year. I join with him in saying that we are the poorer for the deaths of Sir Manmatha Nath Mookherjee, Rai Bahadur Gyanendra Chandra Ghosh, Mr. Roy, Dr. Haldar and the Rev. P. G. Bridge. They were not merely ornaments of the University and helpers in the transaction of its business. Their example and their belief in the intrinsic value of culture was an inspiration to all who came into contact with them.

There can be no doubt that during the past year the University has passed through troublous times, and the Vice-Chancellor has detailed the

principal difficulties with which it has had to contend. I feel that on the whole we can reasonably congratulate ourselves on the extent to which University work has been maintained despite the threat of foreign invasion, the outbreak of civil disturbances, the psychological effect of air raids and the fluctuation of prices and food supplies. The co-operation which the authorities and students of this University have offered in making provision for the passive defence of Calcutta is indicative of a determination not to allow extraneous considerations to interfere with the teaching activities of this seat of learning. The deeper such a determination can drive its roots, and the wider it can spread its branches, the more stable and enduring will be the influence of the University upon those whose characters it seeks to form. In this respect it is encouraging to find that the alarms and demands of war have not impeded the progress made by the Departments of Statistics, Geography, Islamic History and Culture, Teachers Training and Students Welfare, and that the reports from the Post-Graduate Departments are so encouraging.

Bengal, more than any other Province, has suffered from the malice of the Japanese, and its capital city has been one of their objectives. This University, therefore, should give a lead to others which are situated in safer parts of India, and I greatly hope that students of Calcutta University will not be content to obtain comfortable jobs in the administrative branches of the Forces, but will

show their courage and spirit by joining the fighting branches.

I do not wish to imply that the main business of a University should be the production of sailors, soldiers or airmen. Its aims and objects are much wider than that. There is a story told of a visitor from England who, looking over a wide expanse of bleak moor and bog in Scotland, turned to a shepherd beside him and said—"In God's name, what does this country produce?" The shepherd solemnly removed his cap and said,—“Sir, in God's name it produces educated men.” Bengal has no moorland bogs, and despite our present food difficulties the Province does produce a vast quantity of the fruits and crops of the soil ; but it does more than that, for it also produces educated men, and it is rightly proud of the long line of such men who have made its name famous. Very many of them were connected in some way or other with this University, and all of them would agree that the standards set by the University are reflected, not merely upwards and outwards to the wider world, but also downwards to those numerous educational institutions which look for a lead from the University of Calcutta. We, therefore, carry a great responsibility to set a great example, and that responsibility will continue in the future, even though the University's control of secondary education may be transferred to a Board constituted in terms of an impending statute.

The Vice-Chancellor has quoted figures to prove that there is no appreciable difference in the

proportion of secondary school students proceeding to Universities in India, England, Canada, Germany, Italy or Japan; and on these grounds he denies the theory that this University is unwieldy in size or that the number of its students is excessive. I am not quite sure, however, if he is justified in so readily concluding with the late Mr. H. A. L. Fisher that the culprit of "teaching the wrong things in the wrong way" must, therefore, be the nation. It seems to me that there is a mistaken approach here, and that it results from the inaccurate assumption that the quality of education is to be determined by the measure of the achievements of the taught. We certainly require an effective form of primary education, and a well planned secondary education sufficiently diversified in character. But we must look, and we have a right to look, to our Universities to maintain and to increase educational standards in regard to those whom they admit in their precincts and whom they send out as their graduates.

I welcome the remarks of the Vice-Chancellor about the Appointments and Information Board. The Board's results are reasonably satisfactory, for it has secured employment for 650 out of 3,000 registered students, which is commendable in itself. I hope, however, that it will be possible to improve in the future the number of those for whom employment can be found.

One thing is certain—that the scope of opportunity to the younger generation of Benga

is unrestricted, and it is accordingly to the younger generation that I wish to address the remainder of my remarks. Never has such a chance been given to Youth to prove its worth. Modern war requires an educated and intelligent army, for mere brawn can be defeated by mechanism and armament, and the production of armament and its use require a highly intellectual personnel. The world of the future will equally depend upon intellect and adaptability, and India in particular has a great opportunity to expand the use of these "mechanical methods which require skilled technicians and skilled supervisors and organisers. Bengal has given a fine lead in supplying men for the Technical Training Schemes, and can look forward to having available considerable skilled labour to work the machines of post war industry. But to supervise such labour, co-ordinate effort and produce results, Bengal will have to draw on the very best of its personnel. This is where you, the founders of the post war India, have your opportunity. Some of you may take the risk taken by many "Captains of Industry"—and may decide go in at the bottom and trust to your education and personal "grit" to get you to the top. Others may prefer to avoid that risk and to accept an intermediary position with fewer prospects. To all, however, there is an opportunity to serve Bengal, India and the world.

The openings in the Defence Services are numerous, and as you are anxious to free India from the threat by Japan, many of you should

join these services. Thereby you will help to prevent a violent aggressor from seizing your lands and your homes. Service in the Air Force may lead to employment in post-war commercial Air Lines. It will certainly ensure a world in which these Lines will not be run by the Axis Powers. The Indian Army and Royal Indian Navy also need young men of initiative, courage and staying power, and many of you, and particularly the members of the U. T. C., may well find there opportunities of showing your worth.

Whatever profession or employment you adopt, I would urge you to fit yourselves for the reconstruction which will be required in the years after this war, and to use to the best advantage of the community at large the training which you have received here. You will be concerned to provide for yourselves and those who may be dependant on you, and it is right you should be so concerned. Do not, however, let this concern lead you into courses which may be detrimental to the interest of your fellow men, and try to put the needs of society above your own. A University education should enable you to distinguish between the meretricious and the really valuable, and to realise that accepted standards are not to be lightly tossed aside in favour of every will-o'-the-wisp that crosses your path. Do not imagine also that book-learning by itself fits you for every form of employment. If you are to stand on your own feet and prove yourselves to be educated men and

women in the widest sense of the term, you will need a critical faculty, an ability to compare the true and the false, a constancy in seeking after the highest and in rejecting the lower values, and a standard of character and behaviour which will bring out the best, not only in yourselves, but also in your neighbours. If you can demonstrate those qualities in whatever walk of life you may choose, you can be quite certain that Calcutta University will be proud of you.



### **His Excellency's Speech at the Annual Civic Guard Inter-District Drill Competition on the 14th March 1943.**

This is the third year of the Annual Inter-District Drill Competition, and I am very pleased that it has been possible for me to attend on each occasion. By watching these displays year by year I have been in a position to trace your progress on the parade ground from the time when the Civic Guards were hardly more than an experimental organisation, to the present day when they play a most vital part in the wartime administration of the Province. The very high standard of your drill this year not only indicates very rapid and consistent progress, but it is also a record of how much can be achieved by those who are prepared to devote their energy and initiative to the interests of national service.

When the Civic Guards were first inaugurated on a national basis, there were some people who viewed the scheme with pessimism. They thought that it might not be possible to keep up the initial interest over a long period, and that sooner or later there might be a gradual slackening-off of keenness and efficiency. I hope that some of those people are here to-day. The display you have just given is a final and definitive contradiction to their fears. Far from slackening-off, you have grown from strength to strength and you have acquired an *esprit de corps* and a standard of efficiency that compares favourably with any volunteer organisation in the Province.

• You Civic Guards are the Civilian Soldiers of this war. Upon you rests a duty and a responsibility which, if less heroic, is no less essential than the duty devolving upon the soldier in the front line. By fulfilling that duty with keenness and efficiency—such as you have shown on parade this morning—you will render a very great service to the country.

Although the Civic Guards in the Province have now reached a very considerable strength, let us not forget that there is still a great deal of scope for increasing your numbers. This is a job in which *you* can help. Many of you must have friends who have the time and are willing to serve, but who are not fully acquainted with the opportunities before them. • It is up to you to make them aware of these opportunities and to persuade them to enrol.

Finally, I should like to address a few words to District Commandants, upon whom rests the final responsibility for the good name of the movement. I want to remind each one of them that their primary duty as officers is to inspire confidence in the men they lead, and that the only manner in which they can hope to do this is to take an active personal interest in all the men's activities, to help them in the running of their District Club, to listen sympathetically to all their problems, and to do everything possible to build up that spirit of comradeship and service, upon which the strength and efficiency of the Civic Guards so largely depends.

**His Excellency's Speech at the Annual Meeting of  
the Bengal Tuberculosis Association held on the  
18th March 1943.**

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you again to Government House, and I take the earliest opportunity of congratulating Dr. B. C. Roy on his re-election as Chairman of the Association for the ensuing year. The annual report of the Executive Committee for 1942 discloses a slight increase in membership, and I trust that existing members will do their utmost to recruit new members and to stimulate the flow of private contributions particularly in the form of legacies. I am not suggesting that we should ever welcome the deaths of our sympathisers and associates, but merely that those who do wish to express their support of the aims and objects of this Association can do so very suitably by making legal provision for the payment of legacies after they themselves are no longer here to give their active assistance. This is a form of help the usefulness of which is not realised as widely as it might be, and I suggest that the Association might find it worth while to direct particular attention to it.

You will certainly be anxious to know the present position regarding the inauguration of a Tuberculosis Sanatorium. Last year a site at Laringaon in Darjeeling district was examined with considerable care, but it would have required the building of a road 9 miles long, and owing to the demands of war, the estimates for the construction

of this road and the buildings required for the Sanatorium at Laringaon itself were found to be so prohibitively high that Government had reluctantly to abandon the scheme altogether. It was then decided to try and use the sum of Rs. 3 lakhs provided by Seth Ram Kunwar Bangur for the expansion of the existing Sanatorium at Kurseong. The approval of Her Excellency the Marchioness of Linlithgow, at whose disposal this money had been placed, was asked for, but her expert advisers considered that in view of its heavy rainfall, Kurseong was not suitable as a site for the Provincial Sanatorium. They suggested that a further attempt should be made to find accommodation in the plains. This suggestion was taken up and some possible sites have been found near Asansol. The Surgeon-General considers that two of them are suitable, and Dr. Benjamin, who is at present acting as Her Excellency's Adviser in Tuberculosis matters, has been asked to visit them as soon as possible. If he is able to recommend the selection of either of them, there is a reasonable prospect of something being done in the near future. I realise that this report is disappointing, in view of the considerable time that has elapsed since this generous donation first became available. The difficulties, however, have been considerable, and they are increased by the scarcity of suitable materials. I can only express the hope that when we meet, next year, it will be possible for me to inform you that substantial progress has been achieved.

You may have read in this morning's newspapers a report of a statement which was made in the Legislature yesterday by the Hon'ble Mr. S. K. Basu regarding certain other action taken by Government to combat the scourge of Tuberculosis. A permanent additional recurring grant of Rs. 50,000 per annum for the Jadabpur Tuberculosis Hospital has been approved, and this will result, with effect from the next financial year, in Government paying an annual sum of Rs. 80,000 for the maintenance of 80 free beds in that institution. The annual recurring grant of Rs. 15,000 which has been distributed to District Sadar Hospitals for the last 5 years is also being continued with the object of providing better nourishment and treatment for Tuberculosis patients. This is part of a general scheme for the control of Tuberculosis which was adopted by Government last year. The scheme comprises several items, and immediate effect has been given to two of them relating to the provision of special courses of training for medical and health officers and home visitors, and the provision of better treatment and nourishment in the Sadar Hospitals. With a view to establishing chest clinics connected with these hospitals, 10 districts, with X'ray facilities have been selected, and it is hoped that the local authorities will be induced to accept the implications of the scheme. It is also proposed to apply the scheme to certain Subdivisional headquarters and industrial towns possessing similar facilities, and requests have been made for the incorporation

in the scheme of existing proposals for clinics at Serampore, Budge Budge, Darjeeling and Krishnagar. Government contributions towards these schemes will be dependent on the affiliation of such clinics to the Bengal Tuberculosis Association.

It is further proposed to set up village isolation centres, in which Tubercular patients can be maintained near the houses of their relatives, and it is proposed to grant such patients a subsistence allowance of Rs. 2 per mensem on condition that they remain under the supervision of qualified medical practitioners residing in the locality.

Government have also retained for propaganda work the services of two Tuberculosis officers who were employed on surveys at Serampore and Barisal, and in this way it is hoped to create a Tuberculosis consciousness among the people and to encourage them to help in the establishment of clinics in the districts.

I think that the Association can derive some encouragement from the activities which I have detailed. We are labouring under considerable difficulties, and there is a permanent and growing necessity for more funds. I am sure that the members of the Association will do their utmost to advance the work which it seeks to perform, and I can assure you that I myself will do everything I can to aid you in a task the successful completion of which is of such importance to this Province.

**His Excellency's Speech at the Annual Meeting of  
the Indian Red Cross Society and St. John  
Ambulance Association held on the 29th March  
1943.**

Remembering the many occasions upon which I have been proud to associate myself with the activities of the Indian Red Cross Society and the St. John Ambulance Association, I feel justified in saying that there has never been one of greater importance, nor one which has evoked in me a greater sense of pride, than the occasion upon which I am addressing you now. Inspired by the noble traditions of your service, and helped by the untiring efforts and selfless devotion of your workers, the year you have just concluded is a year of unprecedented achievement in the history of both Societies. Not only has your normal peace time work been expanded out of all proportion, due to civil defence precautions, evacuee problems and other exigencies of war, but you have fulfilled a tremendous programme for the comfort and welfare for the men of our fighting services who are here for our defence. I hope I may be excused if, for a moment, I dilate upon the nature of those achievements.

In the first place, I should like to pay a special word of recognition to the work that has been done in building up the Blood Bank, and in training First-Aid personnel of the Civil Defence Services. I am very glad that the public have now recognised the value and importance of this work and I again

thank all those who subscribed so generously to an air-conditioning plant for the Blood Bank. Another conspicuous achievement during the past year has been the work accomplished both in Calcutta and Chittagong, for the relief of Burma evacuees; and I am very pleased to note that more than five thousand cases were dealt with in the Calcutta dock area alone. I have no doubt that this valuable service to the unfortunate civilian victims of war will find a permanent place in the records of both Societies. I think at this stage I should also make some mention of the magnificent work that was done in the packing of parcels for the Christmas Gifts Scheme. It is perhaps unfortunate that for reasons of security we cannot announce the number of parcels which were packed and despatched by the Secretary's small group of voluntary workers. I can only reaffirm my gratitude for an achievement that was altogether remarkable. By helping in this way they were largely responsible for the success of the scheme which has done much to promote and strengthen a feeling of unity and friendship between the people of Bengal and those who are here for our defence.

Perhaps the most important of all wartime commitments undertaken by the Bengal Joint War Committee has been the work of supplying hospitals, maintaining convalescent hostels and the distribution of amenities for troops; and when I realise that all this has been done in addition to your Maternity and Child welfare work and other routine duties, I feel that only then can one hope to



estimate fully the value and influence of the two Societies in the life of the community.

In times such as these, however, we are justified in looking back upon the past only in so far as it may give us fresh courage and spur us to even greater efforts for the future; and I should like, therefore, to reserve some weight for my remarks upon our commitments for the coming year. If we are to congratulate ourselves on the fact that the recent good news from the battle-fields is to some extent due to our efforts in the past, then I think we should at the same time calculate the efforts required to ensure the continuation of this good news, until victory is guaranteed. We must realise, in fact, that although our achievements during the past year are unprecedented, the demands for the coming year will exceed them on a scale never contemplated before.

The vast army, navy and air-force which we have gradually built up on the Burma frontier during the past year has not yet been in action on a very large scale. When the day comes for these men to face the supreme sacrifice—a sacrifice which they will be making voluntarily for us and for all that we hold dear—then will also come the time to meet our liabilities in full. That day may be near at hand. Before very long the hospitals may be filled with the wounded who bleed on our behalf. Are we ready for that day?

I estimate that if Bengal is to meet these liabilities, we shall require at least 40 lakhs in

voluntary subscriptions during the coming financial year. Forty lakhs is the sum required if we are to prevent unnecessary suffering amongst those who have already sacrificed so much on our behalf. In order to plan and advise upon the best methods of raising this money, I have recently formed an Appeal Committee composed of representatives of the various interests in the Province. It has been decided that an all-the-year campaign shall be launched on April 1st, and I earnestly hope that every one of you will assist me in ensuring that this campaign shall achieve its objective.

In conclusion I should like to offer a special vote of thanks to Sir Upendranath Brahmachari, the retiring Chairman of the Red Cross Society, for the great services he has rendered during the seven years that he has held office; and at the same time I should like to welcome his successor, Major-General Paton, who is also Chairman of the St. John Ambulance Association, confident that by holding this dual office he will be able to direct the future activities of both societies in closer and ever more constructive collaboration for the benefit of a great humanitarian cause.

**His Excellency's Speech at the Inaugural Meeting  
of the General Committee of the Red Cross  
Appeal Fund held on the 30th March 1943.**

In the first place I should like to say how very grateful I am to all of you here to-day for coming forward and offering to help in what can only be described as one of the greatest humanitarian undertakings which has ever confronted the people of this Province. This is not the first time that most of you have given me your help. I recognise amongst those present many who have already proved their public-spiritedness by a long record of loyal and generous co-operation in the past. The task which confronts us to-day, however, is one which will be required to supersede all efforts which have gone before ; and it is for that reason that I am appealing for your assistance in a campaign which is intended to be wider in conception and more vigorous in prosecution than any campaign the people of this Province have known before.

Perhaps I should begin with a short review of the events which have given rise to the demands I am making. This time last year Bengal was very suddenly and without preparedness brought into the front-line of war. From that moment and throughout the subsequent months there flowed into this Province hundreds and thousands of soldiers, sailors and airmen who to-day constitute a most powerful striking force of the greatest war machine India has ever known. It was at this

stage that I first foresaw the enormous liabilities for Red Cross and other welfare objects which would have to be met from the charitable resources of the Province. These were men who had left their homes and families, who had given up all they hold dear—and above all, who had advanced to offer their lives—in order that the future may be made secure for us all to enjoy these very things they had sacrificed. They had come to a part of the world which was new to them; and they had come to live in conditions which often involved the greatest physical hardship. Without books, canteens or any of the popular means of recreation, often miles from the nearest town or railway, and without the advantages of communal life—these men found themselves entirely dependent upon the help that could be voluntarily given by the people of the Province they had come to defend.

It has been the source of utmost pride to me that during the ensuing months the people of Bengal did not let them down. On the contrary we were enabled, by their generosity and through the enterprise of organisations such as the Indian Red Cross Society and St. John Ambulance Association, to supply all the needs that were most required. Books, wireless sets and other amenities found their way to the remotest jungles. Canteens and recreation huts were opened at the loneliest outposts. Men on leave were assured of homes and a friendly welcome. Hostels were founded for the convalescent; and hospital supplies were despatched

to the farthest corners where men lay sick and suffering.

All this was accomplished by virtue of the energy and initiative of the Red Cross and St. John Ambulance workers; assisted by the women's voluntary organisations. For their selfless interest and their devotion to duty we owe them a very great debt of gratitude.

But even these efforts would not have been possible, had not the money to pay for them been voluntarily subscribed by the people of this Province. While congratulating ourselves upon the full measure of this achievement, my great anxiety to-day is to ensure that the same measure of success shall meet our efforts for the future; and at this point I feel I should make it quite clear that whereas our expenditure last year was in the region of 20 lakhs, our expenditure for the coming year will approximate to 40 lakhs. Some of you may wonder why so large a figure is anticipated in view of the fact that so much has already been accomplished; and I propose at this stage to give you an explanation.

In the first place we must contribute our share necessary for the supply of parcels to Prisoners of War. It is perhaps difficult for us to imagine the trials and hardships which are being endured, day after day and month after month, by those who are languishing in the prison camps of the enemy. Caged up like animals, resourceless, and denied all contact with the outside world, many thousands of

gallant Indian soldiers—men who fought heroically against great odds at Tobruk, Singapore, Hongkong and other places—are to-day eking out a monotonous and atrophying existence in enemy hands. I ask you to imagine, for a moment, the pleasure, the relief and gratitude felt by each one of these men on the rare occasions when they receive a parcel from home or a letter from a friend or relation sent through the agency of the Red Cross; when they know for certain that there are at least some people who remember the services they have given.

During 1942 the Indian Red Cross Society has been enabled by the generosity of the public to send no less than 450,000 parcels of food and clothing—at the rate of 20,000 a week—to the Indian prisoners in Germany and Italy. Each food parcel weighs 10 lbs., and contains a balanced diet of foodstuffs specially planned to supply what is lacking in prison-camp rations. If this good work is to continue, and if a little more kindness is to be instilled into their heartless world, His Excellency the Viceroy estimates that a sum of not less than 60 lakhs of rupees will be required by the Central Red Cross during the next twelve months. This sum is estimated to cover only those who have been taken prisoner in the Middle East; and when negotiations have been completed for the despatch of parcels to the prison camps of the Japanese, it is clear that many additional lakhs of rupees will then be required. Out of this total Bengal must pay her share; and when we assess the wealth of this Presidency relative to

the other Provinces of India, I do not think we should consider a contribution of anything less than 10 lakhs to be allocated as Bengal's share for Prisoners of War. Any sum smaller than this would inevitably result in fewer parcels and less help than has been given hitherto.

In addition to this very heavy item of expenditure, we have also to consider the despatch of hospital supplies, amenities and other essential comforts to the gallant Indian troops fighting with the 8th Army in Tunisia; and in again calculating our share, I do not think that we should contribute less than 10 lakhs. Of one thing I am certain, and that is that nobody here to-day will have any doubt about the worthiness of importance of this commitment.

Returning to the demands of the troops on the Burma frontier, I must first of all ask you to bear in mind one very important factor. The major task of the Eastern Army has not yet begun. Nobody imagines that this vast war machine has been established for our passive defence. It would be true to say that their first objective in coming here last year was to stand guard against the invasion of India; but now that this objective has been ensured, and the major danger has passed, the hour draws near for this great Army to take the offensive. The hospital trains will then be bringing into the Province the gallant men who are wounded in the fight. The hospitals which we have long been preparing will then have to bear

further witness to the tragic suffering of war. These wounded men will have many requirements which are not supplied from Army sources, and they are requirements which will be supplied only if we have the money in cash to pay for them. For these medical supplies and amenities we shall require not less than 20 lakhs.

From what I have said you will appreciate that the demands before us will require a minimum of 40 lakhs. Ever since the days of Florence Nightingale, the Red Cross Society has been famous for its humanitarian work. Modern warfare and its development on a large scale—involving, as it does, a larger number of casualties—has widened the obligation falling upon all who seek to relieve suffering and distress. My appeal is for the soldiers, sailors and airmen who are either sick or wounded, or who are Prisoners of War, or who defend some lonely outpost of India. It includes also civilian victims who have suffered, and whom I have been able to help in the past with funds at my disposal. In a system such as ours founded upon the principles of free initiative, it has always been one of the unwritten laws of society that the rich and prosperous should remember the poor and suffering. Without that spirit of charity our society could not exist. Let us then ask ourselves if each one of us is fulfilling that duty. To many people this war has brought financial difficulties, and they will only be in a position to contribute in proportion to their ability. There are, however, others to whom the war has brought increased



prosperity, and many are in a position to help the cause very substantially. When victory is achieved and the soldiers return from the battle-fronts, none of us will wish them to know that such fortune has been gained without some share of the sacrifice. But apart from this consideration, is it not ethical and just that those who make profit from war should at the same time make some sacrifice for the alleviation of its horror and suffering? I am convinced that there is no better way we can show that sacrifice than by supporting humanitarian organisations such as the Red Cross Society and St. John Ambulance Association. These great societies have always relied solely upon voluntary subscriptions in the past, and it is our duty to see that this support shall be maintained for the future.

In approaching the task before us, we should bear in mind the success with which other Provinces have launched their campaigns. In one week, the Punjab has raised 25 lakhs and Bombay 30 lakhs. All these are sums which greatly exceed our effort so far. I have already received some promises, but the total is as yet small. I can, however, quote specific instances of generosity which may encourage others. The Royal Calcutta Turf Club is giving over one lakh; Chairman, Large Donations Committee, Sir Biren Mookerjee has presented half a lakh contributed by the firms under his control; the Maharaja of Burdwan, in spite of the difficulties experienced by all zemindars, has given a cheque

for ten thousand rupees, and the chambers' results are now beginning to come in.

During my recent tours, I have been shown that the people in the mofussil appreciate the necessity of assisting this cause, and in two recent tours I was presented with sums aggregating three lakhs.

At the suggestion of the Executive Committee, slips are being handed round to each member present here to-day, and I make the request that you should fill in these promissory slips for the very maximum you can give for the coming campaign, commencing the day after to-morrow. According to the results achieved to-day, I shall make further proposals for the future. In this campaign we rely upon your wholehearted support, and we welcome any suggestions and help which may further our effort. At the same time I hope that your influence will encourage many more of the charitably-minded to work with us. In this room we sit in peace having little to fear for the immediate future: let us for a moment think of the soldiers, sailors and airmen on the far-flung battlefields of the world without whose sacrifice and suffering our present security could not exist. Let us show that we are behind them, thinking of them, sacrificing for them steadfast in resolution and unflinching in faith, so that they in turn may realize that their sacrifices, dangers and discomforts are not endured in vain.



